Fire Of Struggle Tempers Victorious Unions

By The Editors

American labor has triumphantly demonstrated its mighty power in action.

The CIO Steelworkers have forced U. S. Steel to capitulate to a strike for the first time. The strike wave generally is wresting from America's most powerful corporations the greatest single wage gains ever won.

American organized labor stands today, despite wartime retreats and repressions, more numerous, powerful and militant than ever.

The CIO has blunted and set back the wage-slashing, union-busting offensive unleashed by power-drunk Big Business after V-J Day.

These strikes have forged a new and stronger working-class unity. The returned veterans, the Negro people, the women and white collar workers have fought shoulder to shoulder in unparalleled solidarity.

From these struggles the ranks of industrial labor are emerging more conscious and steeled. In the fires of open combat, the workers are being tempered and hardened for the still greater battles ahead.

Big Business is conspiring with the aid of the government to gradually devour labor's wage gains through deliberate inflation.

Wall Street's program is being advanced by the Truman administration, which has conducted strikebreaking plant "seizures," whittled down the wage demands of the workers, granted extortionate price increases, and has now contrived a new wage-freezing, price-boosting formula.

At every turn, the workers confront this capitalist government as the most powerful and dangerous agency of their exploiters. It is on the political arena, in its relations with the government, that labor has shown grave weakness.

The failure of the union leaders to break their alliance with the Big Business political machines and Wall Street's government is the greatest handicap to labor.

The next stage of struggle requires first of all a complete break with this bankrupt policy of supporting capitalist politicians. Gains made on the picket lines will be lost unless the unions are prepared to defend them on the political field with their own indispensable political instrument, an independent labor party.

Browder's Expulsion And The Stalinists

— See Page 6 —

THE MILITANT

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FIGHTING STEEL WORKERS TRIUMPH

Strikebreaking Order Closes Down New York

By Art Sharon

(Special to The Militant)

NEW YORK, Feb. 14—For eighteen hours on Tuesday, February 12, New York City, the world's greatest metropolis and American capitalism's financial and commercial center, was a ghost city.

A general strike could scarcely have been more effective in almost completely paralyzing this gigantic community of nearly 8,000,000 people.

Except for utilities and food distributors, every office, plant, store and place of amusement was shut down tight. Only certain categories of people were permitted to use the city's reduced transporation services.

This unprecedented halting of the work and activity of a tremendous city was ordered by Tammany's Mayor O'Dwyer in an hysterical move calculated to smash a strike of 3,500 tugboat men fighting for a living wage. O'Dwyer hoped to create such pressure from a fear-stricken and panicked populace that the tugboat strikers would be forced to return to their boats in complete capitulation to 91 hard-bitten tug owners who refused even the union's offer of arbitration to settle the strike.

SCHEME BACKFIRED

But O'Dwyer's bid for the title of America's No. 1 Strikebreaker backfired. He was forced to rescind his shut-down edict under a tremendous storm of protest not only from the labor movement but from the capitalists themselves.

By the thousands, businessmen large and small clamored for an end of the order which in a single day cost them millions in profits. The New York Stock Exchange dispatched its highest representatives demanding ex-

(Continued on Page 2)

Corporate Heads Secretly Plotted To Crush Unions

DETROIT, Feb. 15—Charles E. Wilson, president of General Motors Corporation, yesterday confirmed the charge made by CIO President Philip Murray that heads of the largest corporations held secret conspiratorial meetings to map joint action against unions, keep wages down and boost prices.

At the same time Wilson indicated the same American monopolists who conspired with Nazi cartels to divide world markets are determined to tighten the control of America's 60 ruling families over the American people.

Wilson blurted out these damning admissions at an NLRB hearing on charges that GM has refused to bargain in good faith with the CIO United Automobiles Workers. Naming auto, steel, electrical and meat-packing barons who met with him at Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York on January 9, Wilson said:

GREATEST FEAR

"It's too bad these responsible citizens can't make the decisions for this country right now." What kind of decisions? They all received a pamphlet with the following union-smashing "decision:"

"I simply cannot conceive of

(Continued on Page 2)

Transit Strike Wins Gains In Philadelphia

By Max Geldman

(Special To The Militant)

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 14 — Philadelphia's two-day strike which completely tied up street-car, bus, subway and elevated lines, ended yesterday when Local 234, CIO Transport Workers Union and the Philadelphia Transportation Co., arrived at a settlement.

The terms included: 1. A general wage increase of 12 cents per hour; 2. Agreement by the PTC to the liberalized pension plan proposed by the TWU (the Company will cease deducting the amount of Social Security payments from the sum paid as old-age pensions); 3. A compromise on the demand for a union shop. The TWU gets a union shop for all employes hired after 1944.

The union originally demanded a 25-cent per hour increase, the pension plan and union shop. As the strike deadline approached, after negotiations which had been proceeding since September, the union offered to arbitrate the wage question, if the company would agree to the two basic demands, the pension plan and union shop. The PTC arrogantly refused to consider the union's proposals.

FULL SUPPORT

The quick settlement of the strike was due mainly to the full support given the PTC workers by the labor movement and large sections of the general public. A **Philadelphia Record** poll taken during the strike showed better than three to one approval of the union's position. Such wide support of a strike which seriously hampered the movements of millions of people in this important industrial city, made the Company realize that this was not a feasible time for a showdown battle against the union.

The strike was well organized.

(Continued on Page 8)

Another Oil Scandal Gushes

Truman Ignores Oil Bribe Charge In Pressing Pauley Nomination

By Evelyn Atwood

In the face of the raging oil scandal which has smeared his whole administration, President Truman on February 15 brazenly defended his nomination of California oil lobbyist Edwin W. Pauley as Under-Secretary of Navy. Truman predicted that the nomination would be confirmed by the Senate. He also divulged that it was none other than former President Roosevelt who first proposed Pauley for this key post.

Moreover, Truman declared that Harold Ickes, whose denunciation of Pauley's nomination precipitated the current Democratic replica of the Republican Teapot Dome scandal in Harding's administration, had "praised" Pauley when Truman discussed his qualifications with Ickes. According to Truman, Ickes told him that Pauley was a good public servant and one of his principal advisers as Petroleum Administrator for War.

This development followed close on the heels of Truman's pressure upon Ickes to resign from the cabinet. In response, Ickes flatly charged in his letter of resignation that the Truman administration tried to make him "commit perjury" to cover up the spoils system of the Democratic Party. Ickes had previously disclosed that Pauley, former Treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, offered to raise $300,000 for the 1944 Roosevelt campaign fund in order to retain title in the rich tidal oil lands for private California oil interests.

Truman, a graduate of the Boss Pendergast school of political graft in Missouri, told his press conference that Secretary of Navy Forrestal had taken the initiative last October or November in suggesting Pauley for the post.

Forrestal, in turn, affirmed that Roosevelt had proposed to him in January 1945 that Pauley be given the Navy Department post where he could influence the disposal of government oil properties. Forrestal admitted telling Truman in August 1945 he would "be agreeable to Mr. Pauley's coming to the Navy Department."

HALF-MILLION BRIBE

The scandal exploded on February 1 during Ickes' testimony before the Senate Naval Affairs Committee. It has since been reported that Pauley actually raised $500,000 for the Democratic Party's 1944 campaign fund, of which $300,000 was contributed by the West Coast oil magnates. Pauley's bribe was offered for the purpose of heading

(Continued on Page 6)

New Wage-Freeze, Price Rise Formula Issued By Truman

By Art Preis

FEBRUARY 18 — The titanic strike of 800,000 CIO Steelworkers, the largest walkout in American labor history, has ended in victory.

Unable after 26 days to crack the solidarity of the steel workers, the steel corporations, through U. S. Steel, capitulated on Friday to the final 18½ cents an hour wage increase demand of the union.

Never before has the ruthless U. S. Steel Corporation yielded to a strike. Never before have the steel barons been forced to grant so large a wage concession.

The victory of steel labor has broken the back of the Big Business resistance to the other outstanding wage demands in auto and electrical equipment.

GM WORKERS FIRM

General Motors Corporation is still trying to chisel an extra cent off the 19½ cents demanded by the heroic GM workers, whose 90-day strike has spearheaded the whole fight of the CIO. But the GM workers, heartened by the steel victory, are standing firm as Gibraltar.

From the first days of the steel strike it was clear that the steel corporations faced the most united and formidable union resistance in their history. The first hour of the strike that began January 21 saw the entire industry paralyzed. The question then was, not would the steel barons be forced to make wage concessions, but how much?

For weeks, the corporations prolonged the strike with the sole objective of preserving their immense profits and augmenting

(Continued on Page 2)

G.M. Strikers Hold The Line For Full Terms

By Grace Carlson

(Special to The Militant)

DETROIT, Feb. 16—With the final settlement of the U. S. Steel strike, news of the end of the 88-day old General Motors strike is expected here almost hourly.

Negotiations between the General Motors Corporation and the CIO United Auto Workers which were broken off by the union last Tuesday, were again resumed yesterday.

In breaking off negotiations February 12, the UAW Top Negotiating Committee charged the corporation with trying to put over "a contract that would leave the union in a helpless bargaining position." In a letter of explanation sent to all GM local unions, UAW Vice-President Walter Reuther said that the union would resume negotiations only on the following basis:

1. "The prompt and satisfactory settlement of all local union demands.
2. "Reinstatement in full of

(Continued on Page 2)

Release Trotsky's Biography Of Stalin

NEW YORK, Feb. 16—James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, today issued the following statement regarding Leon Trotsky's long-suppressed Biography of Stalin:

According to press reports, Harper & Brothers have announced the publication of Leon Trotsky's Biography of Stalin for this April. Although this book was ready for publication over four years ago, it was suppressed by the publishers early in 1942 owing to pressure exerted by the U. S. State Department. Washington obviously moved to suppress the book as a favor to its ally in the Kremlin who feared the appearance of this book.

The lifting of the ban upon the book at this time is a sign of the changed political relations between Moscow and Washington.

Trotsky was struck down by an assassin of Stalin's GPU in Mexico in August, 1940, before the book was completed. The printed text is only in part the product of Trotsky's own pen. At the time of his assassination Trotsky had completed only seven chapters of his Biography of Stalin. The remainder of the manuscript consisted of a rough draft of the five final chapters and notes for an introduction.

Instead of publishing this material in the shape left by its author, Harper & Brothers arbitrarily appointed Mr. Charles Malamuth, who had been hired solely as translator, to "edit" the manuscript. The latter thereupon proceeded to make unauthorized alterations and interpolations which express views contrary to those held by the author and, in effect, pervert and falsify Trotsky's political standpoint.

In protest against this "unheard-of-violence committed by the translator on the author's rights," Natalia Sedov Trotsky wrote on September 23, 1941 regarding these interpolations that Malamuth "had not been authorized to do so either by L. D. Trotsky or by myself." She insisted that "everything written by the pen of Mr. Malamuth must be expunged from the book" and instituted legal action.

However, the present printed text contains all the objectionable material.

The public should therefore be advised that the latter part of the Harper edition of the Biography of Stalin is not the work of Trotsky himself. Nevertheless, its appearance after more than four years of official suppression will enable the world to judge in part why the Kremlin was so anxious to assassinate the author before the book was completed.

Protest Meetings Assail Jim-Crow Murder Of Vets

NEW YORK, Feb. 17—A mass protest rally in Harlem to mobilize against lynch law in New York State has been called by the New York local of the Socialist Workers Party which is playing an active role in exposing the brutal murder of two Negro veterans, the Ferguson brothers, by a Freeport cop. The meeting will be held at Imperial Hall, 160 West 129 Street at 8 p.m., Sunday, February 27. Leading Harlem spokesmen as well as representatives of labor and veterans will address the meeting.

By William S. Farrell

(Special to The Militant)

FREEPORT, N. Y., Feb. 17—The Ferguson Case—the cold-blooded police murder of two Negro brothers, the wounding of a third and the police frame-up of the fourth brother—has aroused a growing storm of demands for justice that may reach from coast to coast.

At a public meeting held by the Freeport Citizens' Committee for Justice in the Ferguson Case, dozens of organizations were represented by speakers who called for action to secure retribution for the Ferguson brothers' family and to fight against the spreading of Jim-Crow and anti-labor terror.

About 600 people turned out for this open meeting at Pythian Hall in Freeport. Only 350 were permitted to enter the hall and an "extra strong" police guard was on hand in an attempt to intimidate the meeting.

Speakers at this meeting represented the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, American Labor Party Clubs, the Socialist Workers Party, the Communist Party, the United Veterans for Equality, the American Veterans Committee, the Calvin Adams Post of the American Legion and church organizations.

David Weiss, representative of the Socialist Workers Party, rose to propose that the CIO and AFL take the lead in organizing a broad United Committee of Action, representing all labor, Negro, veterans and other progressive groups to mobilize a powerful struggle on the Ferguson case and set up a public investigation committee of its own to probe this monstrous crime to the bottom. His proposal was greeted

Continued on Page 7)

Ferguson Pictures And Interview See Page 7

HEROIC INDIAN PEOPLE DEFY GUNS OF BRITISH

By Charles Carsten

Throughout India, British imperialist troops and police are murdering demonstrators who protest the imprisonment of Indian National Army men. Hundreds of unarmed Indians have fallen under withering machinegun fire.

Wave after wave of mass protests, aroused by the British imperialist trial of Indian National Army men, has swept the country since last November. But the deep-rooted cause of the demonstrations lies in the unbearable conditions of poverty, disease and near starvation of the Indian masses. Each new outburst against ruthless British rule has exhibited the mounting fury of the Indian masses.

The latest outbreak alone resulted in "at least 45 dead and more than 400 wounded" in Calcutta according to a February 14 Associated Press dispatch.

The oppressed masses of India are strengthening their unity in the anti-British demonstrations. On February 13, for instance, the Associated Press reported that Hindus and Moslems were jointly protesting a seven-year sentence imposed on an Indian

(Continued on Page 3)

Western Electric, Westinghouse Workers In Jersey Defy Injunctions, Continue Their Mass Picketing

By Alan Kohlman

(Special to The Militant)

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 16—Trampling underfoot strike-breaking court injunctions to limit picketing, mass picket lines at the Western Electric plant in nearby Kearny and at Westinghouse in Bloomfield have successfully halted thousands of supervisory employes from entering the plants under a "legal" cover.

Beginning Thursday, massed Western Electric Employees Association strikers in Kearny turned back 4,000 Western Electric supervisory and managerial people who had been walking through the 10-man picket lines ordered by Vice Chancellor Fielder's vicious injunction.

Meanwhile, since Tuesday, striking CIO United Electrical Workers Locals 410 and 412 in Bloomfield, incensed by Chancellor Bigelow's injunction and his slanderous comparison of mass picketing to "storm troopers of Hitler's Germany," established mass picket lines which clamped an air-tight ring around the Westinghouse plant.

Since January 16, when the first temporary injunction was issued against the WEEA in Kearny, scabs have arrived and entered the Western Electric plant under police escort. Knowing that the permanent injunction was going into effect Thursday, the Western Electric workers now in the seventh week of their strike were determined to stop the 4,000 scabs. As one rank and file spokesmen declared:

CAN'T TOLERATE THAT

"We just couldn't tolerate thousands of smirking management people putting on a big, arrogant show. We are fighting for our bread and butter and we don't believe in being strangled by red tape."

With this determination the workers resisted forceful attempts by management goons. A number of sharp clashes occurred. Feeling ran high when one supervisor drove his car through the lines, knocking down and injuring Walter Black, a union picket. Although the police arrested one picket, the workers successfully resisted company goon and police attack, and turned back all but a handful of scabs.

Both Friday and today, this determined mass picketing again succeeded in completely shutting down the huge Kearny plant.

UNIQUE TACTICS

Mass picketing at Western Electric developed a unique form. There are only two approaches to the plant. One is the train station of the N. J. Central Railroad; the other is by car from Route 25. Recognizing the necessity to protect, as far as possible, their union leadership from being jailed for contempt, the rank and file developed some effective tactics.

On Thursday morning, 300 workers, marching on public property which is not covered by the injunction, blocked off the railroad ramp, while several hundred others blocked off the highway approach. The union leadership had previously issued instructions for the pickets at company gates to comply with the injunction.

Thus, since Thursday morning, the Western Electric workers are engaged in "legal" picketing at the company gates covered by the injunction, and also "legal" mass picketing on public property not mentioned in the injunction. The combination of these two tactics has so far proved completely successful in closing the plant.

Since this effective rank and file answer to the strikebreaking injunction the WEEA leadership has answered the company's arrogant "starve-em-out" attitude by withdrawing a previous union proposal to settle for a 15 per cent wage raise retroactive to August, 1945, and reverting to earlier demands for a minimum of 18½ cents.

IMPORTANT MEETING

Yesterday, Frank Fitzsimmons, WEEA president, and other union officials left for Memphis, Tenn., to attend an important meeting of the National Federation of Telephone Workers, to which the WEEA is affiliated. The NFTW will again take up plans for the threatened nation-wide phone strike, which will be most effective aid to the embattled Western Electric strikers. They will also discuss the important question of proposed NFTW affiliation to the CIO as an international union, with its own field of jurisdiction independent of the UE-CIO.

Meanwhile, mass picketing of Westinghouse workers in Bloomfield swelled to over 1,500 despite the injunction. So far, the police of Bloomfield have not enforced the injunction against mass picketing and even Chancellor Bigelow, rocking under the attack which the unions have launched against him for his slanderous anti-labor position, declared "he did not know" who would enforce the injunction. This did not deter UE leaders from their plans to impeach Bigelow for his vile slander of the pickets as "storm troopers".

You Can't Keep These Steel Workers Down

High-spirited steel strikers picketing Bethlehem's plant in Seattle, Wash., mix a bit of fun with the serious business of keeping out the scabs. They are members of the CIO Steelworkers Local 1208.

GM Strikers "Hold The Line"; Continue Fight For Full Terms

(Continued from Page 1)

the cancelled contract.

3. "Payment of a cash wage increase across the board of the full 19½ cents an hour recommended by the President and his Fact-Finding Board."

Reference was also made in the Reuther letter to the corporation's proposed changes in the 1945 contract—wiping out of the maintenance of membership clause, equal pay for equal work for women, changes in grievance procedure, etc. The net result of the corporation's proposals would mean a "return to the 1940 contract," Reuther concluded.

Special Labor Department Conciliator James Dewey, who is handling the GM-UAW negotiations, has so far refused to comment on whether agreement has been reached on the question of the reinstatement of the 1945 GM contract—or on the wage question.

STALINIST DOUBLE-CROSS

The stab in the back dealt the UAW strikers by the leaders of the Stalinist-dominated CIO United Electrical Workers Union who signed a separate agreement with the General Motors Corporation last week will never be forgotten nor forgiven by Detroit union militants. A vigorous denunciation of the "double-crossing" strike policies of the Stalinist leadership of the UE who secretely accepted an 18½-cent settlement for 30,000 GM electrical workers, was made at the February 11 meeting of the UAW's General Motors City-Wide Strike Committee here.

FISCH BACKS SELL-OUT

Cadillac Local 22 had previously adopted the resolution condemning the UE leadership. Its delegates to the City-Wide Strike Committee were instructed to introduce it in that body. In presenting the resolution, Dave Miller, Local 22's President, made a sharp attack on the UE leaders, characterizing their act as a "sell-out" of the GM strike. Miller's attack on these Stalinist trade union leaders aroused considerable comment in Detroit labor circles because Miller has been known in the past as a consistent supporter of the Stalinists.

Fred Fisch, Stalinist delegate from Detroit Transmission Local 735, was one of the two or three delegates who spoke against the resolution. He attempted to defend the treacherous deal which his Stalinist friends of UE had made with General Motors by pleading that a question of "union autonomy" was involved. His argument that UE had just as much right to sign a separate contract as did the Ford and Chrysler unions was quickly demolished by speakers who followed him. They pointed out that the Ford and Chrysler unions were not on strike and were not fighting the same corporation.

TEXT OF RESOLUTION

Fisch is the same individual who has been leading the Stalinist drive to prevent distribution of The Militant to Detroit picket lines and who pushed a motion on January 23 in the City-Wide Strike Committee to "discourage" the distribution of the paper to GM strikers.

The text of the resolution condemning the UE-GM settlement, which received the support of all but three of the delegates to the City-Wide Strike Committee, is as follows:

WHEREAS: The United Electrical Workers Union, CIO, gave assurances to the Strategy Board of the UAW, as reported to the National Conference of GM delegates "that their struggle for higher wage rates would be coordinated with the plans as outlined by the UAW International Executive Board" and

WHEREAS: A departure from this pledge was made when the UE failed to take joint action with the UAW in calling out their membership in GM plants, and

WHEREAS: Secret and separate negotiations have apparently been conducted by UE top officials which have culminated in an offer of 18½ cents per hour and is reported acceptable to said officials;

BE IT RESOLVED: That the GM City-Wide Strike Committee emphatically condemns this inferred "double crossing" of the UAW-GM workers by the UE leadership, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we call upon President R. J. Thomas and President Philip Murray to exert all necessary pressure to prevent ratification of this proposed settlement until GM meets the legitimate demands of the auto workers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to R. J Thomas, Philip Murray, George Addes, W. Reuther, and that all UE Locals in GM plants be urged to refuse to return to work until a settlement has been reached with the UAW.

REUTHER'S STATEMENT

After the above resolution was adopted, Walter Reuther, who had been invited to the Committee meeting to report on the union-corporation negotiations, devoted a considerable part of his speech to the treachery of the UE leadership. Reuther accused the Stalinists of demagogy because while they were calling for a "general strike" in words, they were attempting to undermine the GM strike in fact.

Although Reuther did not name them as Stalinists, he left no doubt in any delegate's mind as to whom he was aiming at when he spoke in scathing terms of "these people who say one thing and do another."

French Trotskyists Win Libel Suit Against Stalinists

The French Trotskyists have won a judgment against the Stalinists for libel. On January 22, the Bordeaux court ordered the editor of La Victoire to pay 1,000 francs damages for slandering the Parti Communiste Internationaliste.

When the Stalinists in Bordeaux launched their campaign of lies and slander, the Trotskyists demanded a Workers' Court of Honor be organized to hear the charges. The Stalinists rejected this offer. The Trotskyists then took the case to court.

The Stalinists, of course, could not substantiate a single one of their vicious libels.

Big Business In Secret Plot To Bust Unions

(Continued from Page 1)

any tolerable or enduring order in which there exists widespread organization (union) along occupation, industrial or functional lines." Wilson praised this as "a learned treatise . . . a great deal of foresight."

Wilson tried to pass off the top-secret conference of America's biggest monopoly spokesmen as no more than an idle talk-fest where no agreement was reached or even intended. "We just discussed what a hell of a shape we're in."

Among the labor-haters Wilson reported at his secret confab were Eugene Grace, president of Bethlehem Steel; John Stevens of U. S. Steel and Charles Cook, president of American Rolling Mills. The names of Grace, Cook and Benjamin Fairless, U. S. Steel president, appear in Nazi cartel records just seized in Luxembourg.

Also present were GM's Alfred P. Sloan, John Thomas Smith and Donaldson Brown; General Electric's C. E. Wilson; and A. W. Robertson of Westinghouse. These three concerns were long ago disclosed as having been linked with the Nazi I. G. Farben cartel. Wilson did not name his meat-trust guests nor the representative of Libby-Owens-Ford (glass) Company.

BEGAN MONTHS AGO

That this conference actually began last November and continued until January 15, under heavy guard of private police and without even recessing for noon lunches, was disclosed by Victor Riesel, N. Y. Post columnist, on February 8. The session continued the policies of union-hating American monopoly, practised by the Special Conference Board of 1920, also a conpiracy to smash organized labor.

In addition to these secret inner councils, these monopolists also work together through their Chambers of Commerce and National Association of Manufacturers, spending millions on anti-labor advertisements and campaigns. The Militant has warned throughout the wage negotiations that these trusts were ganging up against the workers to boost prices, slash wages and smash the unions.

Strikebreaking Order Closes Down New York

(Continued from Page 1)

emption from the order, which they quickly got. Only a short while before these same capitalists through the Chamber of Commerce had been clamoring for "strong measures" by the Mayor to end the "tyranny of labor" in the tug strike.

FALSE PRETEXT

The pretext for this strikebreaking action was O'Dwyer's false claim that the tug strike had caused a fuel famine threatening to "freeze to death" the populace. This pretext was smashed to smithereens when the businessmen and the Office of Defense Transportation which had "seized" the tugs hastily denied O'Dwyer's hysterical claims.

Actually, O'Dwyer issued the close-down order after the union had agreed to arbitrate its demands and the tugboat operators — 91 men — had deliberately turned this offer down. This tiny group of owners still hoped that the whole series of strikebreaking acts by O'Dwyer and the federal government would crush the strike.

The tugboat operators did not, in fact, capitulate to the extremely modest proposal of the union until 24 hours after the city was restored to normal. This capitulation came only after the longshoremen began to walk off all ships being handled by scab-run tugs, threatening a total shutdown of the harbor. The seamen also had already indicated their support of such a shutdown.

Thus, O'Dwyer, who had the power to paralyze the entire city, to cost millions in wages to New York's workers, was apparently helpless before 91 adamant tugboat owners whose refusal even to arbitrate left the tug strikers no alternative to complete surrender but to continue their strike. O'Dwyer, of course, was interested only in protecting the "legal rights" of this handful of labor exploiters who were paying their unlicensed workers 67 to 72 cents an hour.

PREVIOUS CAMPAIGN

Prior to his shutdown edict, O'Dwyer had attempted unsuccessfully to break the strike by a tremendous campaign to arouse a lynch spirit against the strikers with radio and newspaper propaganda about the city "freezing and starving to death." He frantically called on the federal government "to man immediately regardless of consequences, every tugboat in New York harbor, and every fuel barge." Truman promptly responded by a federal "seizure" of the tugs.

This obvious government strikebreaking aroused the militant tugboat workers, members of the United Marine Division, AFL International Longshoremen's Association, to greater resistance. Against the pressure of their own leaders, headed by Joseph Ryan, they twice voted overwhelmingly against a return to work without certain minimum concessions.

OWNERS BACK OUT

Prior to the Mayor's edict, the owners had agreed to arbitration if the union would accept. After a stormy meeting, the workers voted in majority to put the issues into arbitration. At this point, the owners flatly rejected arbitration in open repudiation of their own promise.

This was the occasion for O'Dwyer's climactic strikebreaking attempt, which in his official shutdown order he blamed not on the obstinate and ruthless 91 operators but on the workers.

No account of this event would be complete without mention of the reaction of the Stalinists. They had supported the election of O'Dwyer as the "labor-progressive coalition" candidate. For nine days before O'Dwyer's shutdown, the Stalinist Daily Worker remained silent about the whole strikebreaking conduct of their Tammany "pal." But even they finally had to come out and characterize O'Dwyer's conduct as "unfair."

Chicago Strikers Hear E. R. Frank

CHICAGO, Feb. 11 — Strikers from General Motors and steel picket lines, packinghouse workers and other unionists heard E. R. Frank, editor of Fourth International magazine, speak here last night on "Labor's Great Strike Wave." The meeting was sponsored by the Chicago Local of the Socialist Workers Party.

Comrade Frank gave a complete analysis of the present strike wave and the various class forces involved. He predicted that even greater battles are ahead for American labor. "The present union leadership has shown itself unable to adequately lead the American workers in the coming struggles," he added. "But the working class will cut through the obstacles and develop a new left-wing leadership that will lead to victory."

One worker signed an application for membership in the Socialist Workers Party. A number of subscriptions for The Militant were secured. Many workers present were attending a Trotskyist meeting for the first time. They were very favorably impressed, bought literature and asked to be notified of future meetings.

Victorious Steel Strikers Win Demand For 18 1-2 Cents

(Continued from Page 1)

them, despite wage increases, by wangling extortionate price boosts.

The Truman administration only too readily bowed to the inflationary demands of the profits-swollen corporations. It granted a price increase of $5 a ton on steel—10½ per cent.

GRAVY FOR BOSSES

Every penny of this price increase is pure gravy to the corporations. Wartime excess-profits tax rebates, the elimination of the profits tax, the reduction of overtime premium pay, and the increased labor productivity more than compensate for the increase in labor costs due to the new wage gains.

The pattern established by the administration's generous approval of these staggering price increases is one of mounting inflation, whereby Big Business, unable to deny substantial wage increases, plans to nullify these increases as quickly as possible through a skyrocketing cost of living.

BIG STEAL FORMULA

Simultaneously with the announcement of the steel settlement, the Truman administration announced its intentions to enforce a new "wage-price stabilization" formula. This "formula" is a refurbished Little Steel wage-freezing policy, which is already being called the "Big Steal" formula.

This formula would limit wage increases to between the 16 and 18 cents which the strikes have forced the government to concede, while guaranteeing "immediate" price increases for any wage increases approved by the government wage-price agencies. One new twist ensures that no wage increases will be granted without the prior approval of the government wage-freezing agencies. This is the denial of price increases to any firm which grants unapproved wage rises.

It has become glaringly apparent that the wage gains won by the steel and other unions face imminent shrinkage. An inflationary offensive has been unleashed by the corporations and their government hirelings intended to rob the workers of the full benefits of the higher wages they have won in their magnificent strike struggles.

In this sense the victory of the steel and other workers must be viewed as only partial and temporary. Before long, the whole struggle will have to be renewed on an even broader and more decisive scale.

More and more the workers are realizing that wage increases of and by themselves are no assurance of a sustained higher standard of living and a greater share in the nation's wealth. Inflation expressed in higher prices for necessities is the device to which the capitalists invariably resort to reduce the purchasing power of the masses when money wages are increased.

NEXT STEP

The only means for effectively fighting the robbery of capitalist-created inflation is through a rising scale of wages which is automatically adjusted to every rise in living costs. That must be the key economic slogan in the renewed wage struggle which is bound to come on the heels of the mounting inflation.

Of the lessons learned in the great strike wave, one of the most important for the workers will be their clearer comprehension of their friends and enemies.

STALINIST DOUBLE-DEALING

A particularly perfidious role has been played in these strikes by the Stalinists. Despite their newly-proclaimed "militancy," the unions under their domination were the last to go on strike, and are making the poorest settlements. The Stalinists climaxed their double-dealing with the secret 18½ cent wage agreement affecting the GM electrical workers organized in the CIO electrical union which undercut the 19½ cent wage demands of the GM auto workers.

Within the ranks of labor the strikes have revealed weaknesses that must be quickly eradicated in preparation for the next inevitable stages of struggle.

The chief weakness is political. The workers, lacking any political party of their own, have no real means for combatting the blows of the capitalist government, its administration and Congress. The capitalist government has proved the most formidable obstacle to the realization of labor's full demands

The union leaders have continued their utterly bankrupt policy of attempting to place dependence upon the capitalist government and maintaining in one form or another their ties with the capitalist political parties, Democratic and Republican.

But the next and more crucial phase of the struggle may well prove costly to labor if it does not take immediate steps to create its own political instrument, a labor party, and begin to run its own labor candidates.

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WORTHINGTON STRIKERS VOTE "NO ADMISSION" INTO PLANT

By Ruth Laurie

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 12—Hundreds of members of Local 1833, CIO United Steelworkers, on strike at Worthington Pump and Machinery Corporation, voted determinedly at a special meeting today to maintain the solidarity of their strike by permitting no one to work under any circumstances.

The meeting had been called through petition by the union membership to express their objections to the executive board's decision to permit resumption of production on pumps and condensers for the Merck Co., under the pretext that the latter is producing a drug claimed to be needed by the army.

In spite of army pressure, the union ranks disapproved the policy of permitting some members to work and thus weakening the strike front. It was pointed out with facts, that Worthington had at no time shown concern about its veterans and isn't worried about army personnel now.

The strikers' overwhelming sentiment was expressed in the following statements: "There is no real evidence that this drug is absolutely vital at present." "I have a son in the army in China, but three sons here who must be fed and clothed, and a living wage is needed." "We went out together. The way to win is to stick together. Then we'll all go back together."

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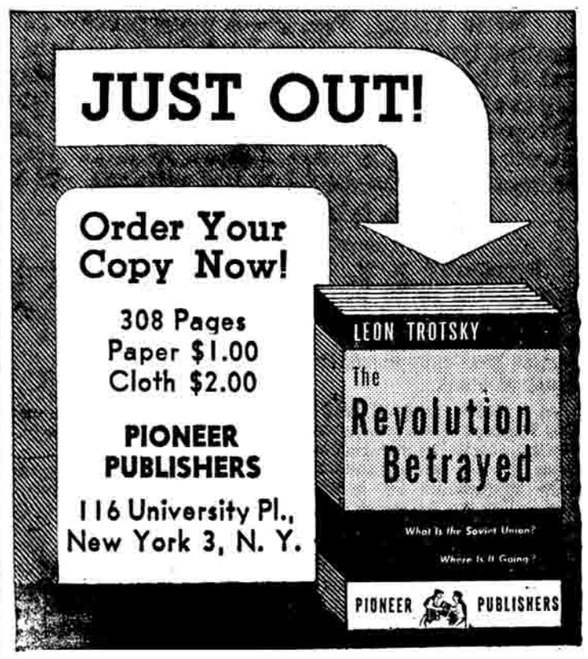

Machine-Gun Fire Of British Rulers Fails To Halt Indian Demonstrators

Gouin Government Inherits Crisis

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PARIS, France, Feb. 1—Felix Gouin's new government coalition of labor and capitalist parties, barely constituted after the unexpected resignation of de Gaulle last week, faced a major crisis before it was able to issue its first communique January 26.

GOUIN

That same day, all employes of the printing industry serving the Paris newspapers went out on strike for a 30 per cent wage increase. Instead of recognizing an increase already conceded by the printing trades bosses, Gouin's government announced continuation of the wage-freezing policy of the de Gaulle regime. Thus the strike was directed against the government.

The strike of the 1,400 printers left the city entirely without news for six days. The government had to distribute its own **Journal Officiel** in very limited circulation, giving only Assembly minutes and official communications.

The strike started spontaneously, against the opposition of the trade union heads, but took on such sweeping character that the union bureaucrats had to give it official sanction.

GOVERNMENT THREATS

The government, made up of a majority of 17 Socialist and Stalinist ministers out of a total of 23, denounced the strike and demanded that the men go back to work. The Socialist Undersecretary of Information, representing Socialist Gouin, threatened government seizure of all printing plants and reaffirmed the wage-freezing program.

Minister of Labor Ambroise Croizat, who is also General Secretary of the Stalinist-controlled Metal Workers Union, in a radio broadcast of January 29, attacked the strikers as "privileged" workers, attempting to prejudice the lower-paid categories of unskilled workers against the strike of the skilled printers.

This Stalinist minister also shamefully attempted to smear

THOREZ

the printers as "collaborators" because their unions managed to hold firm even against the Vichy anti-labor attacks under the German occupation.

The striking printers bitterly denounced these attacks and pointed out that they were asking for less of an increase to meet the rising cost of living than the deputies in the Constituent Assembly voted themselves two months ago, when they generously gave themselves a raise of 110,000 francs.

TROTSKYIST SUPPORT

Despite the great weight of the propaganda of the treacherous Socialist and Stalinist parties, workers in all industries instinctively sympathized with the strike. However, active and organized support to the embattled printers was given only by the French Trotskyists, the Parti Communiste Internationaliste (Internationalist Communist Party). In special mimeographed daily editions of their paper, **La Verite**, (Truth) they called for all-out support for the strike. They characterized the strike as a spearhead against the starvation program announced by the government.

"The printers' struggle is your struggle," said **La Verite** to the French workers. "Every wage worker knows that any advantage wrested in action in one trade will enable the workers of the other trades to get the same advantage. That is the reason why the government is so adamant."

Despite its key importance, the printers' strike nevertheless remained isolated. The majority of workers are still in a waiting mood. They want to see what the new government, now rid of de Gaulle, will do for them. As a result, the printers after a six days' fight were forced to accept arbitration.

The strike itself is symptomatic of the continuing crisis that faces France. The masses continue to challenge the attempt of the French bourgeoisie to solve its difficult and practically hopeless economic position at their expense.

DE GAULLE BLOCKED

De Gaulle's attempt to impose a Bonapartist regime by "legal" means through attaching a plebiscite to the elections for the Constituent Assembly was blocked by the great majority the voters gave the Socialist and Communist parties in the elections. The pressure of the workers, especially upon the Stalinists, disrupted every attempt to create an equilibrium in the government between these parties and the Bonapartist General de Gaulle who represented the greater part of the bourgeoisie. De Gaulle saw his plans for "imperialist grandeur"—that is, the imperialist foreign policy of French capitalism—blocked in the struggles over the military budget. At the same time, all the time-tested capitalist measures to halt inflation proved untenable. French economy as well as the government reached complete paralysis.

Under these conditions, de Gaulle decided to step aside for the time being and permit the mass parties of the workers to assume a larger and more direct share of responsibility for the growing economic distress. At a later stage he hopes to rally a mass movement of the increasingly desperate petty bourgeoisie to carry out his original aims at dictatorship.

The Stalinists, upon de Gaulle's resignation, made a gesture in response to the sentiments of the masses. Big headlines in their paper **L'Humanite** (Humanity) "demanded" the presidency for Stalinist leader Thorez and a government of a Socialist-Communist majority. It soon became clear this was nothing but a maneuver.

When the Socialists refused to form a government without the Mouvement Republicain Populaire (Popular Republican Movement, the capitalist party which has served as de Gaulle's mass base), the Stalinists instead of going into opposition, quickly yielded in return for a few additional government posts. They can now tell the masses that if there is no labor government, the Socialists are to blame.

PROTESTS HEARD

But already protests are being heard over this maneuver: "If you meant business, why didn't you let the Socialists form a government with the MRP and go into opposition? That would have clearly shown the responsibility of the Socialists. And the masses would have judged them accordingly."

This is what the French Trotskyists point out. They show that the new government, because it constitutes a coalition with the bourgeoisie, is forced to continue de Gaulle's program of wage-freezing, half-measures in nationalizing industry, and the guarantee of profits for the French capitalists.

Only a Socialist-Communist Government, says the Trotskyist Parti Communiste Internationaliste, can take steps to save France from disaster by basing itself on a plan of production worked out by the trade unions in the General Confederation of Labor and carrying out genuine nationalization without indemnity to the monopolists and trusts.

Same Work, New Boss

"TAIYUAN, Shansi, China, Feb. 12—Gen. Yen Hsi-shan, the last of North China's powerful warlords, has returned to the governorship of Shansi — this time as a professed servant of the Central Government (Chiang Kai-shek)—by lining 40,000 surrendered Japanese troops against the Communists (Stalinists) along the province's railways and beating the Communists into the main cities . . . Lieut. Gen. Rishiro Sumita, former Japanese commander in Shansi, still occupies his imposing headquarters building and is one of General Yen's aides."
(N. Y. Times, Feb. 13)

Widow Of Bartolomeo Writes On His Death

Official confirmation of the death of Nicola di Bartolomeo has been received by **The Militant** from the Partito Operaio Comunista (Communist Workers Party). Comrade Bartolomeo was the General Secretary of the Italian Trotskyist party.

He was well known under the pen names of Fosco and Roland in militant working class circles of France, Belgium, Holland and England. He fought in Spain during the civil war against Franco's fascist armies.

"We have lost our comrade," says the letter from the POC, "at the very time our party is moving forward." Comrade Bartolomeo, continues the letter, built the Italian party through two years of continuous effort. "His loss hurts not only the Italian movement but the entire Fourth International."

The following letter has also just been received from Rose Gaudino, the widow of Comrade Bartolomeo:

Naples, January 19, 1946.

Dear Friend,

With great sorrow and with great despair I communicate to you and to all the comrades and friends the death of my Nicola.

Nicola Di Bartolomeo is no more. He died after a few days of intense suffering. I have lost in him my husband, and my little Natalia has lost a father, who was no ordinary man. The party in turn lost its best militant—the backbone of the Italian movement.

Dear friend — you who have for some time been in correspondence with me, I beg you to tell all the comrades and friends that Nicola died poor. His funeral was held like that of any other modest worker. After 25 years of struggle in all countries, without ever yielding, Nicola left me, his wife, and his little Natalia in the most dire need. The comrades who stayed here at the house for two days and nights know the truth of this. Nicola has gone. I am left with the family fortune of 16 lire. This does not frighten me, but it pains me for my little one.

"I WILL CONTINUE"

I, Rosa di Bartolomeo, will continue my work in the ranks of the Fourth International because Nicola wished me to be the perfect comrade and in the first ranks. The comrades of the POC (Communist Workers Party) have encouraged me to continue the work initiated with faith and courage of my poor Nicola.

My only pain is for my little child. I will seek work, but it is extremely difficult to find at this time. To you, and to all friends and comrades who have aided us by their solidarity, I entrust the care of little Natalia. Now that she hasn't any father any more, the comrades of Nicola, and my comrades, will all be her papas. She is only one year old, remaining alone with her mother who is traversing temporarily a path of discouragement and of sadness.

With cordial greetings to all the friends and comrades.

Rose Gaudino
Widow of Bartolomeo

Indian National Army Men Regarded As Loyal Patriots

Members of the Indian National Army are being tried by the British despots for having waged war against British imperialism. The Indian people regard the attack on the INA as an offensive against the entire movement for the independence of India. This is why a popular movement of tremendous proportions is backing the defense of the INA prisoners.

The Indian National Army was organized by Subhas Chandra Bose, who suffered persecution for his opposition to British imperialism, spending the greater part of his life in foul British prisons.

Bose escaped British clutches early in the war. Making his way into Japanese-occupied Burma, he accepted aid from the Japanese authorities, founded the "Free Indian Government," and organized the Indian National Army. This Army had as its aim freeing India from hated British rule.

FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM

About 150,000 men and women were recruited to the INA mainly as volunteers from the Indian Prisoners of War in Japanese hands. Resident Indians in South-east Asia also joined the Army. The overwhelming majority of the ranks of the INA were convinced their struggle aided the cause of India's freedom.

Bose correctly rejected the claim of British Imperialism that the Second World War was "a war for democracy." However, he failed to denounce the equally false claim of Japanese imperialism that Japan represented the interests of "All Asiatics." He also failed to link the struggle of the Indian people against British imperialism with the struggle of all oppressed colonial peoples for freedom from all imperialisms. Bose was a member of the Indian capitalist class.

Nonetheless, the INA came to symbolize in the eyes of the Indian masses their struggle for national independence. Thus, almost all India is vigorously opposed to the trial and persecution of these prisoners of the British overlords.

THE REAL TRAITORS

The Indian masses regard the Indian princes, high Indian officials, the landlords and big capitalists, all of whom collaborate with the British overlords, as the real traitors in their struggle for independence.

In the eyes of the Indian masses the INA fighters are champions of freedom. The INA men are charged with treason to the British imperialist master, for having waged war against the King. About 6,000 of these soldiers are still imprisoned in India and 2,000 more are being held in East Asia.

According to a February 7 Associated Press dispatch "27 military members of the INA died in custody. Two died by suicide and nine were hanged." Eighteen others received punishment ranging up to life imprisonment.

MASSES ANGRY

These sentences were imposed before the gigantic, widespread demonstrations began last November. Fearing the consequences of the policy pursued up to that time, the Government conceded that future trials would be confined to persons accused of "war crimes." This amounted to a reduction in the number of victims selected by the British for punishment.

The British even released a few individuals. But this miserable concession failed to satisfy the angry Indian masses. In huge protest demonstrations throughout the entire country during the past few months the Indian people have demanded immediate release of all INA prisoners.

Paris Printers Give Novel Reply To Stalinist Lies

The printers in Paris vigorously objected when the Stalinist press attacked their recent strike.

On February 2, the editors of **L'Humanite**, official organ of the Communist (Stalinist) Party, likened the strikers to collaborators with fascism.

Upon reading these slanders on the forms of the paper in the composing room, the incensed workers decided on a novel protest. They lifted out the offensive items and ran off the Stalinist rag with gaping white spaces on the front page!

However, the Stalinist editors refused to take the hint. Instead, on the following day, they included these workers too in their smear of the strikers. "Did the rotary pressmen," complained **L'Humanite**, "under the occupation exercise censorship over the Nazi press?"

Stockholders Not "The Public"

There are only about 8,000,000 stockholders in the United States —one-eighteenth of the population. But half of all corporate stocks and other wealth is owned by only 110,000 persons. This is less than one out of every 1,750 of the population.

Fighting For India's Independence

Indian workers fought back with bamboo sticks when British officials ordered the police to break up a peaceful independence demonstration in Bombay, India, on January 24. Casualties were 45 killed and 50 wounded—more martyrs in India's struggle to throw off the yoke of imperialist oppression.

Trotskyists In Vanguard Of Indian Peoples' Fight

Trotskyists in India are militantly participating in the anti-British demonstrations. In Calcutta they addressed the demonstrators, urged the protesting students to maintain their ground and gather re-inforcements.

They called for the organization of "disciplined, coordinated action through Joint Committees of Workers and Students," joint demonstrations and meetings.

On December 4, **Fight**, Trotskyist paper of India, declared: "The issue of the Indian National Army prisoners overshadows all others in India at the moment. The masses are intervening actively to assure their immediate release. The right to rebel is the inalienable right of all colonial slaves."

During the huge November demonstrations the Trotskyists in India raised the slogan: "FREE THE INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY."

"The soldiers of the Indian National Army," stated an editorial in **Fight**, "are being treated, not as fighters who were ready to give their blood for freedom, not even as prisoners of war, but as traitors and deserters. Mass opinion in India has been outraged by the treatment of captured personnel of this Army.

"The Indian people are determined," continued the editorial, "not to allow the execution or imprisonment of these brave men. If this is permitted it would be a great blow to the independence movement."

"The lives of those fighters must be preserved," the Trotskyists declared, "for they have still a role to play in the liberation of India. We join our voices to the demand for the immediate freeing of these men."

The role of the Trotskyists in India is in sharp contrast to that of the traitorous Stalinists leaders. These servile agents of the Kremlin denounced the INA men as "Fifth Columnists and Fascists," until "the pressure of the masses had goaded them into a painful and half-hearted change," report the Indian Trotskyists.

In the most recent demonstrations in Calcutta the Stalinists, according to an Associated Press dispatch, cooperated with leaders of the All-India Congress Party and the Moslem League in attempts to halt the demonstrations.

Indian People Hate British Overlords

The British have an unbroken record of savage oppression for the hundreds of years they have ruled India. The Indian people have rebelled against the hated imperialist rule time and again. Demonstrations and uprisings are suppressed with clubbings and mass arrests, gun-fire and bombings. The British Empire is built on the blood and bones of its victims.

Control of this prize possession is maintained through brutal military rule. It is marked by countless cases of mass murder and wanton destruction by the police and imperialist troops of India. A report printed in the **Bombay Chronicle** last November contains examples typical of British cruelty in India during the war.

British troops murdered 78 persons with gun-fire during the repression of anti-British demonstrations in the Tamluk and Contai sub-divisions in just six months — from August 1942 to January 1943.

During the same period, according to the report, 230 Indians were wounded in the area. And in the Contai sub-division alone Britsh troops and police burned 1,080 homes.

A devastating cyclone hit the area in August 1942 causing widespread destruction and suffering. Instead of aiding the victims the report declares that British troops would surround an entire village, forcibly remove the men and place them under arrest. Some of the soldiers entered the houses, "committed outrages on women on a mass scale, destroyed the belongings and decamped with cash and other valuables."

Instead of publicizing the damage caused by the cyclone, continues the report, the Government attempted to "suppress the gravity of the disaster." The all-powerful, oppressive Defense of India Rules were used for this purpose. "The effect, if not the very object of the censoring of news, was to prevent, or at least delay relief to the distressed."

The District Magistrate, a faithful servant of the British Crown, decided that relief should be withheld for a month in order to teach the people a "permanent lesson."

Relief measures were not only utterly inadequate but relief workers from Calcutta entering the area were arrested and imprisoned under the Defense of India Rules.

Officers of the British army, acting in the traditional manner of imperialist brass hats, continued repressing the people even after the demonstrations had subsided. With their usual vigor in such cases they carried on a policy of savage reprisals against the people of the area for six months.

Indian Troops Join Anti-British Fight

Members of the Indian Army and Air Force are graphically indicating their solidarity with the masses now demonstrating for the freedom of India from British imperialism.

These armed forces were set up by the British imperialists to bolster their hated rule. But, report the Trotskyists in India, "Officers and men" are not only "sending in contributions to the Indian National Army relief funds all over the country, but even appearing on the platforms of mass meetings to present those contributions."

Famine In India Threatens Lives Of Ten Million

Unless India receives huge quantities of grain, famine threatens — a famine far more devastating than the Bengal famine of 1943-44 which took a million and a half lives.

J. J. Singh, president of the India League of America, charged Britain "with a large share of the responsibility for the looming famine in India," which he said, "may take the lives of 10,000,000 persons if adequate relief is not sent."

"Unless the approaching famine is averted," declared Singh, "food riots involving 100,000,000 in the drought areas may touch off a widespread revolution in India."

Singh accused the Government of India of doing little to avert the threatened famine, despite lessons learned in the Bengal famine which he said was "man made."

NOTHING DONE

The danger of famine has been pointed out for nearly a year. Yet, the Government has done nothing to bring new areas under cultivation or to accumulate sufficient stockpiles to avert the crisis.

Delegates to the Central Assembly in India accused the government of failure to forestall the ominous threat of famine "by internal measures to assure a fair and equitable distribution of food among the various provinces at fair prices."

Since 1944 people living in cities with a population over 10,000 have been held to the slim ration of one pound of grain a day. On February 16, the British Viceroy, Viscount Wavell, belatedly admitted the famine danger in a broadcast to the Indian people and called for a further cut in the starvation ration throughout India.

Wavell said India was about 3,000,000 tons short of its food requirements. But semi-official estimates of India's cereal import needs, to maintain even a starvation quota of twelve ounces daily, are placed at more than 4,000,000 tons.

BRITISH POLICY

The impending famine is sharply aggravating anti-imperialist sentiment among the masses. Indians charge the British overlords of India with failure to take steps to avert mass starvation.

Nationalist leader Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, addressing a crowd on February 14 at Benares, declared that, "if people die of hunger, their deaths will be avenged."

On February 17, Nehru added: "At no time previously has the British government in India been so thoroughly disliked and distrusted by the people as at the present."

Rich Get Richer

Forty-three (43) corporations own more than a third of all wealth of the United States. About 90 per cent of the population own nothing.

(Continued from Page 1)

National Army officer by the British.

British troops armed with machine guns and riding in armored cars patrol the streets. On a single evening, February 13, in a town just outside Calcutta, four Indians were killed and many wounded by the police.

The Indian workers responded to the murder of their comrades with strikes tying up transportation, telegraph and postal operations. Striking workers and demonstrators tied up the Bengal-Assam railroad. Transportation, telephone service and other utilities were almost completely paralyzed by the demonstrators in Calcutta. "Few Europeans dared to venture out on the wreckage-strewn streets," said the Associated Press.

The Indian masses, exploited to the point of desperation by British imperialism, wreaked vengeance on anything linked with their brutal oppressors. Demonstrators set fire to two post-offices, smashed European business establishments and raided the homes of European residents of Calcutta.

The puppet Bengal Government warned that any person barricading a road or interfering with traffic would be "shot." It prohibited processions and assemblies.

OTHER DEMONSTRATIONS

The largest demonstrations have occurred in Calcutta and Bombay. But assemblies of Indians in Madura, Lahore, Delhi, Lucknow and Amritsar have been attacked by police and British troops armed with machineguns and lathis (long bamboo clubs used by the Indian police.)

The immediate cause of the demonstrations was the imprisonment and court-martial of soldiers of the Indian National Army. This Army was formed under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose, who accepted aid in the fight for India's liberation from the Japanese. The INA was uncompromisingly anti-British. The Indians regard its soldiers and officers as heroes in their struggle for independence.

The scope and power of the demonstrations forced the British to concede as early as November that the trials would be confined to persons accused of "war crimes" against the British.

MASSES WRATHFUL

This concession failed to placate the indignant and wrathful Indian masses. They continued demonstrations throughout India demanding the release of all the INA men. They hurled stones and bottles at British police and troops. A February 14 Associated Press dispatch from Calcutta said they "appeared bent on destroying anything connected with the Government."

Time and again during the demonstrations men and women armed only with their hatred for British rule refused to disperse on orders of the sub-machine-gun armed troops. The fierce gun-fire mowed them down. Dispersed for a time they assembled again. They have thus repeatedly demonstrated their solidarity with the imprisoned INA men and their desire to throw the British out of India.

Leaders of the All India Congress Party and the Moslem League toured the cities together recently "trying to restore order." Acording to a February 18 Associated Press dispatch Communist Party (Stalinist) leaders joined these "peace squads."

But the angry masses attacked and stoned the automobile carrying the treacherous "peacemakers."

Censors Curtain Facts On India

"There is a big black curtain drawn between India and America," declared Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Nehru, sister of Jawaharlal Nehru, who recently returned to India after a trip to the United States.

Mrs. Nehru charged that the American press and the British authorities were engaged in a conspiracy to conceal the facts of the Indian political situation from the American people.

"An American knows nothing about the true state of affairs in India," said Mrs. Nehru. "Only propaganda news reaches him."

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

Lynch Law

On February 5, in Freeport, Long Island, four Negro brothers, three of them veterans of World War II, were peacefully waiting for a bus. After protesting when the bus terminal tearoom refused to serve them, they went elsewhere for refreshments and returned to continue their trip.

A few hours later, two were dead, a third wounded, the fourth in prison. Policeman Joseph Romeika, slayer of the Ferguson boys, is still on the force, whitewashed by the chief of police. The judge is still on the bench, although like any Ku Klux Klanner he played the roles of both prosecutor and jury and denied his victim the right of defense counsel.

To every worker, every veteran, every member of a racial or religious minority, the Ferguson Case is of vital importance. It has written in bloody letters the lesson that lynch law is speedily spreading beyond the southern states. Jim Crow terror increasingly permeates the whole structure of capitalism, north and south, east and west.

The Militant has been reporting the shocking case in Fontana, California, where a Negro family of four was recently burned to death after vigilante threats. Last week the FEPC was throttled by a cynical deal between so-called liberal Senators and the most brazen supporters of white supremacy. And now we witness the official murder of Negroes in the "progressive" state of New York.

The capitalist press in New York, like the California press in the Fontana murders, maintains a conspiracy of silence around the Ferguson case.

The Socialist Workers Party, which has been in the forefront of the campaign to apprehend and punish the Fontana vigilantes, has issued in New York a public appeal calling upon the entire labor movement to demand a thorough investigation of this latest outrage against the Negro people.

The Republican and Democratic agencies of government cannot be relied upon to investigate the Jim Crow police force and courts which are their own evil tools. What is needed is a broad United Committee of Action consisting of representatives of the trade unions, Negro organizations, Jewish and other minority organizations, and veterans' organizations. Such a committee must create at once a PUBLIC COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION TO PREVENT A WHITEWASH AND BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FREEPORT MURDERS.

Truman's Record

The cesspool of official corruption uncovered by the Pauley oil scandal is opening the eyes of many people to the true character of Truman's administration. Not since the days of Republican President Harding has such a piratical crew of unabashed reactionaries, ward-heelers, and representatives of the great financial interests been placed in charge of the capitalist ship of state.

The key posts of foreign affairs and domestic finances are handed over to two Southern Bourbons, Byrnes and Vinson. Bankers, business men and oil tycoons like Snyder, Vardaman, Pauley and others are given high offices where these personal cronies of the President not only can feather their own nests but cater to the needs of the industrial and financial overlords of Wall Street.

But Truman's appointments are only a small part of the aid he has already rendered to the wealthy and privileged.

This week Truman proposed to clamp a new wage-freeze formula upon the workers at the same time that he yielded to the extortionate price demands of the profiteers.

During the present labor upsurge the administration intervened on behalf of the bosses by government strikebreaking "seizures" against striking oil, packinghouse and tugboat workers. By calling for the establishment of "fact-finding" bodies, Truman gave Congressional labor-haters their cue to rush through such vicious anti-union measures as the Case Bill.

Although his party platform pledged support to the FEPC, Truman did not lift a finger when leading Democrats organized the filibuster lynching of the FEPC

Truman's administration has accorded the corporations the repeal of excess profits taxes, continued subsidies and now huge price increases. But it has permitted the Full Employment Bill to be disembowled. It helped Congress knife the act to raise unemployment compensation to $25 a week.

And this administration which has shown itself to be so hostile to labor and so subservient to Big Business was elected in 1944 with the support of the bulk of the union leaders and the CIO-PAC!

The unions have learned how to fight and how to win against the capitalists on the industrial arena. But labor remains handicapped and helpless in the political field because of its captivity to the boss-controlled Democratic and Republican parties and the lack of its own party.

If the gains wrested from the corporations are not to be lost at Washington, American labor must move forward by breaking all ties with the political deputies of wealth. The most urgent task confronting the union movement now is to prepare to run genuine labor candidates on labor party tickets in the 1946 elections.

Secret Deal At Yalta

One of the secret treaties setting forth the aims for which the Allied powers really fought the Second World War has at last been published.

This treaty, made at Yalta, February 11, 1945, by Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, is as sordid and shameful as any of the bandit agreements in the first imperialist world war.

To get Stalin into the war on Japan the other two birds of prey offered him a big slice of—China!

Let it be recalled that the Big Three left Yalta with the announcement that no secret deals has been made. This public declaration has now been proved by a signed document to have been nothing but a brazen, deliberate, calculated lie.

Moreover, these three hagglers over markets, colonies, spheres of influence, plunder and special privileges sanctimoniously reaffirmed at the close of the Yalta Conference that they were in the war to defend 'Four Freedoms' as defined in the Atlantic Charter. This propaganda likewise has now been proved to be conscious deception—a contemptible, shoddy, hypocritical lie!

A signed document has now established that when these bandits reaffirmed their holy aim of fighting fascist "aggression" they had just finished agreeing on aggression against their own ally.

Chiang Kai-shek was not at Yalta. He did not take part in this particular secret deal. Rumor has it he did not even know about this carving up of China that the unholy big three agreed upon. Yet the secret deal reads: "It is understood that the agreement concerning Outer Mongolia and the ports and railroad referred to above will require concurrence of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. The President will take measures in order to obtain this concurrence on advice from Marshal Stalin." Apparently not even this satisfied Stalin, for the next sentence reads that "these claims of the Soviet Union shall be unquestionably fulfilled."

The easy assurance with which Roosevelt guaranteed Chiang's compliance indicates how completely Wall Street controls and manipulates the Chiang regime. The Chinese dictator in Roosevelt's eyes was clearly nothing but a contemptible puppet. And the territories of China as well as the masses of mankind in these territories were in his eyes nothing but pawns on the chessboard of reactionary power politics.

Veterans And Unions

The attempt of Big Business to use the veterans against the union movement has suffered a great setback. Ex-GIs of World War II have been in the forefront of the current strike wave as the most militant fighters for higher wages and better conditions.

Veterans of World War II are learning from labor the value of mass action in struggle for their demands. In state after state veterans marched on the Capitol demanding unemployment compensation for strikers.

Veterans representing 28 United Steelworker locals on strike in Indiana Harbor sent a delegation to the Governor of Indiana. In Pennsylvania hundreds of striking ex-GIs converged on the Capitol in Harrisburg. About 600 striking veterans of the United Electrical Workers in New Jersey marched to the State Capitol February 11.

On the following day 1,000 parading veterans in Columbus demanded favorable action from the governor of Ohio. A parade and mass meeting of 2,400 veterans was held under the leadership of the Mahoning County CIO in Youngstown on February 3.

In all these cases veterans have acted in conjunction with the unions. In each instance they demanded unemployment compensation for striking workers.

The present strike wave witnessed these positive achievements. But these separated actions have also disclosed the burning necessity for the extension and consolidation of veterans' committees on a wider scale.

In Detroit the United Auto Workers broadened its Veterans' Committee into a city-wide committee during the first days of the General Motors strike. This is a step in the right direction.

A further move along the road to trade union organization of the veterans has been made by the Greater Buffalo CIO Council, which has called on both union and non-union veterans to join its broadened Veterans' Committee.

The militants in all localities must urge and organize action along these lines. Veterans' Committees must be widened to include all union veterans and non-union veterans sympathetic to the labor movement. These mass membership committees will serve to pave the way for state and national organization of the ex-GIs under the banner of labor.

Such a movement will not only be able to fight most effectively for the special needs of the veterans but will assure a lasting alliance between the veterans and organized labor.

"I don't know where those women find the TIME to stand around on picket lines—why I'm on the go from morning till night!"

Workers' BOOKSHELF

MUTINY IN JANUARY, by Carl Van Doren. The Viking Press, New York, 1943. 300 pp. $3.50.

The mighty demonstrations that have recently heaved up in the American armies are as full of human anger and indignation as they are of deep meaning for the political future of America. If these soldiers or their kinfolk at home want to find a living precedent for their protests in the history of their own country, they will find it in the chapters of the American Revolution. For the soldiers of the Continental Army, being also men of flesh and blood, learned to act together, to strike and demonstrate for their elementary rights.

The most outstanding action of this type in the Continental Army during the American Revolution was the rising of the Pennsylvania Line which began on January 1, 1781. The story of this soldiers' strike is dramatically and faithfully told in **Mutiny in January.**

In the middle of December, 1780, Brigadier-General Anthony Wayne wrote to the President of the Executive Council of Pennsylvania from Morristown, New Jersey, where the Pennsylvania Line was in winter quarters:

"We are reduced to dry bread and beef for our food, and to cold water for our drink. . . . This, together with the old worn-out overcoats and tattered linen overalls and what was once a poor substitute for a blanket (now divided among three soldiers), is but very wretched living and shelter against the winter's piercing cold, drifting snow and chilling sleets.

"Our soldiery are not devoid of reasoning faculties, nor are they callous to the first feelings of nature. They have now served their country for near five years, poorly clothed, badly fed, and worse paid. Of the last article, trifling as it is, they have not seen a paper dollar in the way of pay for near twelve months."

Desperately urging Pennsylvania to feed, clothe and pay up in full its troops, Wayne also advocated immediate fulfillment of past promises to grant 100 acres of land to each non-commissioned officer and private.

Anthony Wayne, who had fought and suffered with his soldiers, was in a position to know acutely both the strength and weaknesses of the American Revolution. Its strength lay in the social aspirations of the lower classes, the farmers and artisans who were the backbone of the Revolution and made up the body of its army. Its main internal weakness lay in the provincial stinginess of the upper classes, who could not rise to full stature of national outlook and real sacrifices, who wrangled throughout the war with the lower classes of each state, contesting the desires of the farmers and artisans for more political power.

In the early hours of New Year's Day, 1781, Wayne dispatched a messenger to General Washington with the news that the Pennsylvania Line had clashed with its officers, swept the parade grounds with grapeshot, and was marching off in good order toward Princeton.

The power of the well-organized strike for food, clothing, pay and especially for clarification of the status of discharges, stands on the level of the best conducted union strikes today. At Princeton, where the mutineers took over the college buildings, they continued their high degree of organization and established friendly relations with the inhabitants of the surrounding countryside. Negotiations with the military and civil authorities were shrewdly conducted by their negotiating committee, the Board of Sergeants. These soldiers stuck together through the ensuing weeks until most of their demands were met, emerging victorious, with no reprisals.

By its solidarity, its self-discipline, organization and principled character, the struggle of the striking soldiers commanded the respect even of the authorities, who at first tried but were unable to smother it with slander and trickery. The demands of the soldiers stood out clear and simple, winning to their support the surrounding population, the New Jersey militia and the other troops, so that no plans could be made for its suppression.

The mutiny did a great service to the Revolution and the Continental Army. Fighting on firm principles, it lifted the crisis in the army above demoralization and collapse. It forced the States to rush aid to their own troops. It bears credit for helping to force the French government into more assistance against the British.

The GIs today are not, as their forefathers were in the Continental Army, a part of a revolutionary army. But their recent demonstrations have already played an important part in hampering Wall Street's designs at home and abroad. Mass actions in defense of their rights by soldiers, whether in a bourgeois-democratic revolutionary army or in an imperialist army, have in the end a common result—the weakening of the hand of reaction and the strengthening of progressive forces in the world.

Reviewed by Joseph Bowen

Congressmen At Work

Filibustering is not as easy as it seems. In fact it is one of the more difficult arts necessary to qualify a capitalist politician for Wall Street's Congress. Compared to filibustering the other arts such as lying, demagogy, tapping public funds, etc., really belong in the category of unskilled labor.

Filibustering is the craft of a small minority. The other capitalist political arts are collective efforts in which the large majority by sheer bulk and cooperation make up for any weaknesses of defects this or that Congressman may display in the way of honesty and forthrightness. Filibustering has still other difficulties. The isolated Congressman inevitably runs out of material, sometimes within a few hours. Yet he must keep going, hanging on to his monopoly of the floor, no matter how great the vacuum in his head.

But there are tricks to every trade, as the virtuosos in the art, the Southern Bourbon Senators, revealed once again in their recent filibuster against the Fair Employment Practices bill.

In nailing FEPC to the cross, the filibusterers shouted again and again "that every Communist and every Socialist is supporting the bill with every power at his command." They argued that any measure supported by communists must be condemned out of hand. From long

experience they have learned that one of the prime esentials of successful filibustering is rabid red-baiting.

These virtuosos comb the press for material, seizing every scurrilous, slanderous, vicious attack against genuine communism. And, as the Southern Bourbons maintain, industry is always rewarded. Sometimes they run across a windfall.

Thus Senator Russell of Georgia gleefully picked up the red-scare recently inspired by General Motors stooges in Flint:

"Mr. President, I happened to notice a certain article in the N. Y. Times of last Sunday. I was sitting in my room reading the newspaper before going to the office to read the bill, and I happened to run across an article which is headed 'Red Charges Fly in Flint Strikes. Union Leader, A Trotskyite is Ousted."

This champion of ignorance, prejudice, bigotry, superstition, the poll tax, unfair hiring practices and lynch law then attacked FEPC as a bill that would put union leaders in jail for "dismissing a person because he was a Communist or a Trotskyite who advocated the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force and violence."

Senator Russell slowly read the entire article into the **Congressional Record** of January 22, pausing from time to time to slash at communism.

But the pay-off is the distinguished company in which this vicious red-baiter stood. Besides the stooges of General Motors Corp., the leading anti-Trotskyist red-baiters in the Flint case have been none other than the Stalinists! The **Daily Worker** in fact picked up the Flint case as a big item in its current red-baiting campaign against the Trotskyists.

Here is the $64 question: Why did Senator Russell — this past master of filibustering — content himself with a second-hand source of information like the N. Y. Times? Why didn't he read it directly out of the **Daily Worker**? Could it be that he considered raw and unadulterated Stalinist red-baiting too dirty for even a foul Southern Bourbon to repeat?

PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

Disability Payments

Washington is brazenly carrying out its policy of discriminating against GIs even in the case of disability payments. Every GI knows, and **The Militant** has pointed out time and again, the scandalous privileges enjoyed by high officers while they are in the service. And we have called attention to the fact that on discharge from duty officers receive terminal leave of several months while GIs don't.

But privileges for the brass hats and gold braid don't end with termination of service. These sons of the upper crust are given special consideration also in the case of pensions for disability.

This despite the fact that generally they don't need pensions as much as GIs do. For they often have private incomes, businesses or professions. Usually their civilian occupation requires little more activity than sitting at a desk.

But if brass hats were disabled while riding a swivel-chair in "The Battle of the Pentagon Building," they are eligible for generous pensions.

A colonel, for example, may be declared "totally disabled" if suffering from ulcers aggravated by "skirmishes" in Washington's night clubs. He would thus go on the retired list and receive three-fourths of his base pay or $250 a month. With three years of service, a longevity allowance would increase his pay to $262.50 a month. All of it tax-exempt!

A GI friend of mine, who contracted a serious case of stomach ulcers while in the service, was pronounced 10 per cent disabled. He receives $11 a month.

Contrast the ample allowances given the big brass with those provided for GIs wounded in battle — after agonizing months in foxholes eating "C" and "K" rations, freezing in the cold winters, or sweltering in tropical heat.

In the first place GIs must have sustained their disability in connection with actual service or it must have been aggravated in the line of duty.

A man who lost his right arm in combat gets $125 a month from the Veterans Administration. The loss of both legs or both arms—$200. This is still far below that given the colonel of the "chairborne infantry."

For the loss of one leg above the knee, a GI receives from $104 to $138.50 a month.

Pensions for pulmonary tuberculosis and body wounds not involving anatomical loss are computed on a percentage of disability basis with a maximum of $115 month. Legislation provides for 10 grades of disability, ranging from 10 to 100 per cent. Total disability—impairment of mind or body, making it impossible to follow a gainful occupation — entitles the GI to $115 a month.

The colonel with ulcers may get well in six months. But he will continue to receive full retirement pay for life. Brass hats don't have to undergo subsequent physical examinations. This is another privilege reserved "For Officers Only."

GIs with any service-connected disability from which they might recover must undergo a yearly examination. Pensions are reduced according to improvement and will be stopped if doctors declare the men are cured.

How much the disabled GI can earn has nothing to do with the right to or amount of a pension. The Veterans Administration doesn't care whether the veteran is employed or unemployed, whether he is disabled to such an extent that it prevents him from following his former trade or not. The criterion is the degree of injury.

"The whole system is snafu in my opinion," wrote an angry ex-GI. He expressed the opinion of millions of veterans, who are determined to eliminate such gross inequality.

Senate's Sham Fight Over The FEPC Bill

When a prize fight is "fixed" by crooked managers, the two fighters at least go through the motions of slugging it out in the ring. They make a serious effort to cover up the fact that one of the "fighters" has been paid off to take a flop at the prearranged time.

But the sham battle in the Senate which last week delivered the knock-out blow to a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission was so cynically and clumsily fixed that its fakery became obvious to the most casual observer. This is confirmed by Arthur Krock in the February 14 **N. Y. Times.**

Even capitalist press reporters characterized the performance staged by the opposing Senators as "phony." They pointed out that in previous filibusters, for example in the fight for the repeal of the poll-tax law, the Congressional contenders had held all night sessions. But in the FEPC case, "although Senator Morse protested almost daily that the Senate should be held in 24-hour sessions, he did not resort to continuous quorum calls that would have made this a possibility." Instead, the Senate held "banking hours." This was "the first five-day-a-week filibuster that old hands can recall," says Krock.

Moreover, in flagrant violation of the etiquette of crooked fights, the Senatorial opponents, after a few heated verbal exchanges, embraced each other right in full view of the public. Every day "ended with displays of the old Senate good fellowship . . . there would be smiling huddles among representatives of the warring groups." The speakers even made most courteous arrangements for their opponents' arguments to be heard.

Senator Chavez, who introduced the bill and made the most fervent declarations in favor of justice, democracy and the FEPC bill, was the first to grasp Senator George's hand after George had blasted away at Chavez for bringing up the bill. Chavez always cordially obliged Senator Russell, manager of the filibuster, whenever Russell signalled to him, about 4:30 each day, to move for an overnight recess.

And when the bill had been finally knifed, Chavez eagerly declared: "Mr. President, I am satisfied with the vote. I am strictly satisfied with the vote." Then for the public record he added: "I am strictly satisfied with the crucified Christ this day." After that he speedily moved that the Senate proceed to other business.

The Negro people and the other minority groups are fully acquainted with their open enemies in Congress — the Bilbos and Eastlands. Now in this theatrical performance preceding the lynching of the FEPC bill, they can see that those who pose as their friends in Congress, both Democrats and Republicans alike, are actually concealed enemies. They posed as "advocates" of the FEPC bill only in order to deceive and thereby retain the votes of the Negro people. But as the record of the sham battle again demonstrates, the oppressed minorities can count on no firm defenders in the Big-Business Congress.

WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Steel Strikers Like Gray Cartoon

Editor:

Today we went around town distributing **The Militant** on the picket lines and at a large steel union meeting. The distributions were all very successful. But what we saw that was best of all is that everyone noticed immediately Laura Gray's cartoon in this week's **Militant**, entitled, "A Robber Calling The Cops."

The men really liked it and many laughed and made favorable remarks about it.

Comrade Gray's cartoon this week really hits the nail on the head.

Ruth Franklin
Newark, N. J.

Some Suggestions For The Militant

Editor:

In the event that members of the editorial staff of **The Militant** might welcome comments from a reader, I enclose these notes:

I appreciate the fact that **The Militant** presents labor's problems to the public. Many conservative papers hush stories of that nature. However, I believe **The Militant** would be of greater service to the public if the writers would not "dress up" the facts in "sensational" terms and would eliminate the propaganda of the "join-our-movement-because-we-are-so-wonderful" sort of thing.

I commend the articles on foreign news and letters to the editor. I hope **The Militant** continues to emphasize the international viewpoint. I would like to see a more thorough treatment of the Negro problem, along with constructive suggestions for action.

I hope the editorial policy in the future will emphasize the constructive angle of all problems a bit more, and will try to attain a higher standard of writing (in the literary sense).

D. M.
Detroit

Capitalism Boasts of Slashed Production

Editor:

Every day as I ride the street car, I pass by a building on which is printed in giant letters: "We are now wrecking Calship yards."

Only under capitalism could it be possible to boast about the destruction of the means of production. It was only a short while ago that Los Angeles spoke with pride of its giant shipyards which employed tens of thousands of workers.

A. L.
Los Angeles

Minneapolis
Buy THE MILITANT
AT THE
LABOR BOOK STORE
10 S. 4th Street

DON'T CALL ME A SCAB!

(A scab has been defined as one who is a traitor to his class.)

Yes, I'm an outcast, a tramp and a bum,
I am friendless and down and out:
I don't care a rap for your smile or your frown,
Not a whit for your praise or your flout.

I live like a beast, as you say in your scorn.
I'm a flaw in society's plan.
And you're right—I'm all these and more than all that,
But—I never yet scabbed on a man.

I'll "steal" when I'm hungry, and fight when I must,
And lie — when it pays me the best;
I'm lazy and shiftless and drink like a fish,
And I'd "murder," perhaps, if hard pressed.

I'm a vagabond, worthless, a curse to the race;
I admit it, so just save your gab;
I'm crusty with dirt, but I'd have to go some
To be dirty enough for a scab.

I'm low and degenerate, scarce fit to let live,
A target for every cop's sap:
A hand-out my banquet, the gutter my bed,
As I travel the face of the map.

You may call me a scoundrel, a liar or cur—
They'll fit, so just take a grab;
I'll not kick at the dirtiest name in the lot,
But — for mother's sake Don't Call Me A Scab!

Thomas Tarigian

Veteran Describes UE March For Unemployment Pay

Editor:

I am a veteran who came back from the army to find myself out on a picket line, fighting a new battle for enough money to live on. I was one of 600 UE-CIO veterans on strike in electrical and radio shops who, on Monday, February 11, marched to the New Jersey state capitol in Trenton. We went there to ask for unemployment compensation. What we got was a lesson in the "appreciation" that the government is ready to show us.

We sent a committee of six delegates from our ranks, in to talk to Governor Edge. His secretary, a man named Gilroy, met them instead, with the "explanation" that the governor had "more pressing" business to take care of. We found out later that his "pressing business" was a pow-wow to choose a Republican candidate in the coming New Jersey elections.

Gilroy wasn't very helpful. First he quoted phrases from the unemployment compensation regulations, which we all knew about—we were there to have them changed! Then he suggested that we were losing money because of the strike — a very "polite" way to tell us to go back to work.

Our committee made it clear to Gilroy that we hadn't come to the state capitol to hear that, and we were not going to go back to the miserable pay the companies have been handing us.

The committee asked for a soldiers' bonus to be paid by the state. But Governor Edge is "not in sympathy" with that, Gilroy explained — because it would cost too much money.

Then he did some buck-passing on the question of loans to GIs; the committee was asking that the red tape around loans be cut out, and interest rates reduced. He just washed his hands of all our problems.

Nothing much was settled, but we did get another good lesson in where the veterans belong. We learned first-hand that capitalist politicians, no matter how much they bleat about "our boys," don't care if we go hungry. We'll have to stick with the labor movement and fight to get every penny that's coming to us.

A Veteran
Newark

Farmers Changing Views On Labor

Editor:

I know it does not seem normal for a farmer to go out of his way to support the worker in his bread and butter struggles. But the war has brought a few things before the farmers' eyes. One matter is that of purchasing power for the farmers' produce. Now more than ever, increasing numbers of my farmer friends gradually are coming more and more to the conclusion that high wages do not harm the farmer.

Perhaps I have stated a fact too bluntly. Let me put it this way. The sing-song in farmer circles has always been that when the farmer has high prices, everybody prospers — that then the worker too has high wages. Someone once said that peoples' brains are in their stomachs. The farmer is no exception.

What does the farmer see about wages? Or when does the farmer pay higher wages? When harvest rolls around and prices are high on his products, the farmer pays higher wages than when his products sell at a low price. But what farmers neglect to see is the reason for higher or lower prices. To them wages come after prices. The farmer does not look at wages of the industrial worker as creating the higher prices. He has only been able to see that when prices are low for his products, the farmer cannot afford to pay high wages to his harvest hands. So the farmer's environment causes him to put prices before wages. He thinks purely from his stomach. I do not hold that point of view, let me hasten to add.

Now however, in this farming community at least, the fever against strikes does not run as high as has been the case previously. Yes, some farmers now find justifications for the strikes. One thing that even the farmer has been able to see is the greatly increased profits taken by Wall Street. So labor's strike for an increase in wages—without increased prices for the big boys—looks like a just strike to the farmer.

He is beginning to see that high wages for the factory worker are also good for the farmer. At least you can talk with the farmer on that basis now. Of course he will never be very much in favor of high wages for farmhands. Yes, I have complete confidence that some day labor will be able to lead the farmer to Socialism, Peace and Plenty. The **Militant** is an inspiration to all the oppressed, both worker and farmer.

J. E.
Renville, Minnesota

Now on Sale

Fourth International

TABLE OF CONTENTS
FOR MARCH

Review of the Month:
Lessons of the Strike Wave
Scientists and the Atom Bomb
Plight of the European Jews
Character of the European Revolution By E. Grant
The Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party By Warren Creel
European Perspective and Policy
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Two Ends Of The Same Chain

A Letter From A Texas Worker Weighs Labor And Management

Editor:

I saw the following letter in the "Letters from the People" column of the **Caller**, (Corpus Christi, Texas) a few months ago. I've been saving it, but now I'd like to pass it along to give **Militant** readers an indication of the growing class consciousness of the workers here in Texas.

E. S.
Texas

* * *

Editor:

All along, sometimes, things happen that please me.

No late happening has pleased me more than the cessation of the use of that word "capitalist." It was getting to be a sounding word.

When the "common people" heard this word spoken or saw it written, it caused them to envision want, hunger and suffering in many ways. So let us, all of us, cease using this ugly, sinister-sounding word and use the innocent - sounding word "management."

Management sounds so much better. Management seems to carry no sinister meaning.

There is another word I'd like to see go, and this word is "labor." Someone, a good hand to think up nice words that soften unpleasant facts, should select a word that will do for the word "labor" what "management" did for the word "capitalist." Sometimes I think the term "muscle producers" would turn the trick; but somehow that word doesn't sound exactly right.

It doesn't eliminate the remembrance of long hours of grueling work, heat, sweat and sore muscles, coupled with the fear of hunger, sickness and maybe eviction. After thinking it over I don't think it would come anywhere near answering the purpose in taking the place of the word "labor;" but I know all we need is a good, nice-sounding word to take its place, removing all the unpleasant memories that word brings to the laborer's mind.

Labor and management are seeking the same thing—more money. Management wants more profits to pay greater dividends. Labor wants bigger wages to enable him to feed, clothe and school his children in better style. But it seems that if he wants higher wages he is not patriotic.

Management made some very good profits out of this war work. I think 400 per cent was the highest profit I saw published.

That's purty good profit.

It takes real good management to make that much profit, any old time. However, that record may be broken in the next war.

Another thing I have noticed is management must be clean, perfectly honest and patriotic to the last degree, for not one word have I ever heard over the radio or read in any newspaper pointing out any wrong committed by them. Management just simply took government money to run the munition business to fight this war and made themselves a nice little profit, in a business-like way, of course.

The only mistake management made was hiring so many of those unpatriotic workers. Of course when the workers found out about the reasonable profits being made by management, it caused a twinge of greed to hit their hearts and they set up a yell for some more money to be added to their daily wage.

Right then management saw its mistake. It should never have employed such men.

I'm sure from now on management won't make the same mistake any more.

The worker should have gone on and kept his mouth shut and he would not have been accused of being an unpatriotic citizen. I noticed where one prominent citizen suggested a nice, quick way to rid management of those workers who struck. It seemed simple and effective. His plan was to organize a machine-gun battalion and shoot them down. Of course, he suggested that a law be passed making such an act legal; otherwise, no matter how just such an act might be, it would constitute a crime.

W. W. Lyles

Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK — The Trotskyist Youth Group, 116 University Place, holds its weekly forum every Friday at 8 p. m. Dancing and refreshments after every meeting. Send name and address for weekly announcement.

Feb. 22—"Russia Today and Tomorrow," speaker: Z. Forbes.

* * *

PHILADELPHIA—Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p. m. at 405 W. Girard Ave.

* * *

LOS ANGELES — Write to SWP headquarters, 145 S. Broadway, for information on Youth Group activities.

* * *

Watch this column for further details on youth activities.

Pioneer Notes

This week shipments of the new Pioneer catalog went out to all branches of the Socialist Workers Party. We have since had a letter from Toledo which reads:

"I have seen copies of the new catalog and believe it is a fine job. I am especially intrigued with the pocket-edition of **The Founding Conference of the Fourth International** which is in immediate prospect. This is a popular size and should increase sales."

This attractive new catalog gives the full current listing of all Pioneer's publications on socialism and the labor movement. A short account is included of Pioneer Publishers and its record in publishing basic Marxist works for the American labor movement. A program of future publications is also listed.

Among the books in preparation are works of Trotsky which have long been out of print but for which there is a great demand—a growing demand from all parts of the world.

The check-list itself is divided into eight separate categories: Books and pamphlets by Leon Trotsky, James P. Cannon, Albert Goldman; a section of documents of the Fourth International and the Socialist Workers Party; problems specifically dealing with the American labor movement. There is another dealing with pamphlets on the Negro struggle; a separate section of pamphlets on the famous Minneapolis Labor Case; and finally a section of miscellaneous books and pamphlets by various authors on problems of socialism and the labor movement.

The catalog will be sent free on request. Ask for your copy from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

CHICAGO

Militant Labor School
Wednesday Evening Classes
Feb. 20—April 10

"The Communist Manifesto" and "Socialism Scientific and Utopian"
Instructor: M. Michaels. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

"First Five Years Of The Comintern"
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LOS ANGELES

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6 classes, each for 6 consecutive weeks

Sunday mornings, starting March 10
11 A. M.—Trade Union Problems—James Dall
12 Noon—Marx's Capital—C. Charles

Tuesday Evenings, starting March 12
8 P. M.—Elementary Economics—John Patrick
9 P. M.—History of American Trotskyism—M. Weiss

Thursday Evenings, starting March 14
8 P. M.—Dialectical Materialism—B. Lens
9 P. M.—American History—J. Hawkins

Fee: $1.50 for each class. Unemployed and strikers free.
Registration will be taken in advance at

Los Angeles School of Social Science
145 South Broadway, Room 201

During the past few weeks, in response to our revisits and mailing, we have received a great many renewals from our readers whose subscriptions have expired.

Many of our readers, now staunch **Militant** supporters, are availing themselves of the $2.50 yearly combination rate, and are including with their **Militant** renewal, a subscription to the **Fourth International**, the theoretical organ of the Socialist Workers Party.

* * *

In line with this, Fred Martin of Milwaukee writes: "On Sunday, the branch obtained 15 renewals; 5 one-year and 10 six-month. The response to our personal revisits was very gratifying and a number of workers expressed a desire to come to our meetings.

"One steel worker who is now on strike asked for extra subscription cards so he could sell subs to his fellow strikers."

* * *

Ida Brandt of New York reported the following experience: "It's a real thrill to revisit our subscribers. One woman in the course of our conversation had this to say about **The Militant**. 'This is the best paper I have ever read, and I'd rather read it than any other. One dollar really means a lot of course, but when you get some good for it, it's a good investment'."

* * *

Ruth Laurie of Newark writes: "Strikers throughout a large section of New Jersey have gotten to know and appreciate **The Militant** as a serious workers' paper. We have been distributing about 2,000 copies of the paper each week, hitting every major picket line, picket-headquarters, and meetings, as well as some of the smaller plants on strike in the area. Only the Stalinists refuse the paper or make themselves conspicuous by their goon tactics and viciousness. Many a worker has been made more curious and interested in **The Militant** by the Stalinists' hysterical antagonism.

"Just to prove that I am not exaggerating about the popularity of **The Militant**, here are some of the remarks made by workers in these several strike-bound plants. A Western Electric picket called to me as I was handing some **Militants** around: 'It's a good paper—it sure does give the true facts.' Another worker, a Westinghouse striker: 'It's an excellent workers' paper; I have a subscription and get it regularly every week.' A Bloomfield GM striker: 'We like **The Militant**. Could you send us a bundle of ten or more to our office every week so that we could always have some around to read?' These are but a few. I could really go on indefinitely."

* * *

Willian Schmidt of New York, a new subscriber, sent us the following comment: "**The Militant** is a very interesting newspaper, and it brings many articles that you don't find in the daily papers. I enjoy reading it very much as it is very instructive, and I hand it to my friends when I am finished with it."

* * *

Still another **Militant** booster, **M. C. Bennett of Washington,** sent in for a one year renewal for himself, and two six-month subscriptions for friends in Tennessee and Nebraska.

We'd like to urge all our readers to get their friends to subscribe, and join the ranks of the fast-growing **Militant Army.**

* * *

Readers have requested that we include more frequent listings of the SWP branch activities. Among the top scoring branches this week are:

New York—75 six-month and 48 one-year renewals; 7 six-month and 6 one-year new subscriptions; 1 one-year combination subscription.
Youngstown—33 six-month new subscriptions.
Buffalo — 25 six-month and 2 one-year new subscriptions.
Baltimore — 20 six-month new subscriptions.
Flint—26 six-month and 3 one-year new subscriptions.
Milwaukee—10 six-month and 5 one-year renewal subscriptions.
Portland—3 six-month and 1 one-year new in addition to 8 six-month renewals.

OUR PROGRAM:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!
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A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!
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Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!

2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!
No restriction on the right to strike!

3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!

4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!
Down with Jim Crow!

5. Build an independent labor party!

6. Tax the rich, not the poor!
No taxes on incomes under $5,000 a year!

7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!
Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
Trade Union wages for all workers in the armed forces!

8. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!
For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!
Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

9. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

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Browder-A Wall Street Agent 16 Years On Stalin's Payroll

By Joseph Hansen

It's official now. The National Committee of the Communist (Stalinist) Party has condemned as a traitor the man who acted for 16 years as chief lieutenant in America for Generalissimo Stalin. On February 13 the National Committee expelled Earl Browder "for betraying the principles of Marxism-Leninism and deserting to the side of the class enemy — American monopoly capital."

The National Committee of 54 agreed unanimously that Browder's line, the line slavishly followed by all Stalinists during the second imperialist world war, was a line of betrayal of the working class. And the 54 agreed unanimously on expelling this perfidious traitor Browder.

What could be more natural or logical than this unanimity of the 54 in condemning Browder? Weren't these 54 only yesterday just as unanimously peddling Browder's treacherous line? Didn't these 54 Stalinist choirboys year after year just as unanimously sing the highest praises to their beloved leader Earl Browder?

EXCOMMUNICATED

"The struggle against Browder and Browderism now enters a new stage," continues the official excommunication. "The struggle against Browder and Browderism is no longer a struggle against a trend in the Communist and labor movements. It is now a struggle against a deserter from communism, against an alien ideology and influence."

Thus the political line faithfully carried out by Browder on Stalin's orders has now been given the name of "Browderism" and baptized as an "enemy class ideology." And thus have the rank and file—indignant at having had to sell Wall Street's program to the workers—been tossed nothing less than the General Secretary of the party in the hope that this sacrificial scapegoat, fattened for 16 years will keep them quiet.

The General Secretary is not the only leading Stalinist who has recently joined the camp of monopoly capital. Victor Decavitch, a former leading official of the CIO United Electrical Workers, long known as a Stalinist hatchet-man in Ohio, has just become "industrial relations adviser" for the Federal Welding Company.

MORE DESERTERS

Edward F. Cheyfitz, former head of the CIO die casters, now merged with the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union, likewise long known as a Stalinist spokesman, is today "associated" with Eric Johnston, former head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. And these are but two of the many such Stalinist careerists who have openly sold out to Big Business.

Can we forget Louis Budenz, editor of the **Daily Worker?** This chief of staff on the official organ of American Stalinism, abruptly announced October 10 that he had joined the Catholic Church and accepted a lucrative post at Notre Dame University. An official statement of the stunned Stalinist leadership characterized Budenz' unexpected flight as "abandonment of the labor movement."

Nor is Earl Browder the only General Secretary to be expelled as an agent of capitalism. His predecessor in this post, Jay Lovestone, was likewise expelled back in 1929 under similar circumstances.

The only other person to hold this highest post in the party was Charles E. Ruthenberg. He died in the spring of 1927. Thus two out of the three General Secretaries before Foster have been booted out in utter disgrace, denounced as agents of monopoly capital.

WHAT IS CAUSE?

What is there about the Stalinist Party that permits scoundrels, traitors and tools of Wall Street to rise to the highest posts? Certainly it is not because of any remarkable contributions in the field of theory or because of superior ability or training. What has Browder ever written outside of obvious trash cooked to order of the Kremlin's diplomatic requirements?

Likewise, it cannot be said these chiefs were elevated to their high posts because they enjoyed a mass following. Each expulsion has demonstrated their lack of roots in the labor movement.

After being kicked out, Lovestone lasted for a while as head of a small group that tried to get back on the Stalinist gravy train. In January 1941, however, the remnants of his group adopted a resolution to the effect that the best thing they could do in the interest of socialism was dissolve.

ONLY A PUPPET

Browder after 16 years in office, leaves with far fewer followers than Lovestone. To make a livelihood, he has been compelled to enter the business world. Could there be more convincing evidence that he was nothing but a puppet lacking any of the real backing characteristic of working class leaders who enjoy genuine support among the masses?

It is highly instructive to compare the fate of these Stalinist flunkies with the fate of the Trotskyists who were expelled from the Communist Party in 1928. Lovestone was then General Secretary. At the head of a powerful party, his future seemed assured. When he railroaded through an expulsion of the Trotskyists he thought they would speedily disintegrate.

But the Trotskyists had a program, the Marxist program of Lenin and Trotsky. They followed principled politics. They fought for political ideas and devoted themselves to the cause of the working class without thought of personal sacrifice. And they had a will to fight. In the very next week after their expulsion (October 27, 1928) they began publishing a paper, **The Militant.**

Although the Trotskyists lacked financial resources, and were only a handful, they knew that in the long run principled politics would win out. Within a few months they were given a token of the future. The high and mighty Lovestone who had sacrificed principles in his concern over the post of General Secretary was summarily ousted. Some of the workers in the Communist Party drew the correct lesson from this expulsion and joined the Trotskyists to fight for the program of genuine Marxism.

Today **The Militant** is the fastest growing labor paper in the country; and the Socialist Workers Party, organized by the Trotskyists, is forging ahead steadily. The SWP is deeply rooted in the American working class. It is from these class roots that it derives its sturdy independence and its great political stability.

The Stalinists on the contrary have no independent existence whatever outside of the Kremlin bureaucracy. They follow no program but that of opportunistic adaptation to the orders of Moscow. The task of these bureaucratic wheelhorses is simply to drag the party along in accordance with the shifts and changes of Stalin's devious foreign policy.

Consequently the Stalinist machine develops only men who are pliable, men willing to fawn, servile tools without backbone or independence of character. These jelly-like creatures are elevated to the highest posts and then discarded wtihout stirring a ripple in the working class. They are respected by no one, least of all the cynical Kremlin gang who manipulate them.

NOT AN ACCIDENT

Browder's expulsion is not simply the consequence of an isolated individual degenerating politically. It follows from the whole system which has been built up in the Stalinist organization. The natural selection of leaders in this organization occurs in an environment of opportunism and corruption. People without moral standards or even elementary honesty become the leaders. This is the conclusion that must force itself on workers still remaining in the Communist Party. Browder's open desertion to Wall Street is not an accident but a link in the whole chain of decay.

A party that places at its helm leaders like Browder cannot serve the interests of the working class. Instead it constitutes a festering political sore. The present venomous attacks which Earl Browder's former bosom companions are now levelling on the Socialist Workers Party are nothing but a barrage intended to prevent workers following the so-called Communist Party from seeing the truth—that only one truly revolutionary Marxist party exists in the United States, the Socialist Workers Party.

Stalinist Agent Of Wall Street

Earl Browder, supporter of American imperialism shown acknowledging the applause of the Stalinist cheering squad at the May 1944 Communist Party convention in New York City. In his keynote speech, Browder defended the imperialist slaughter then raging, endorsed Wall Street's program, and called for Roosevelt's re-election.

West Coast Longshoremen Call Strike Referendum

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 31—With an "aye" that shook the rafters, San Francisco longshoremen last night gave their approval to the union negotiating committee's plans for an immediate coastwise strike-referendum. "This means that we hit the bricks on or before April 1—the shipowners have left us no choice," Harry Bridges, President of the CIO International Longshore and Warehousemen's Union, told the meeting. A longshoreman yelled: "The sooner the better! Let's go!"

The coastwise referendum will take place February 7-11, with the negotiating committee asking for a 100 per cent yes vote. A majority yes vote will mean a tie-up of the entire Pacific Coast from San Diego to Vancouver, British Columbia. Only another referendum could stop the walk-out.

In the eventuality of government seizure of the ships and docks, the Bridges report to the meeting indicated that the men would not be ordered back to work "without adequate guarantees." He likewise gave no indication that the policy of "troopships must move", would be followed. However, "troopships must move," has been precisely the position taken by the Bridges-Stalinist leadership of the ILWU in their attempt to undermine the three-month old joint AFL and CIO machinists' strike.

BRAZEN ATTITUDE

Reviewing recent negotiations with the Pacific Coast Waterfront Employers Association, Bridges, reporting for the negotiating committee, pointed out the brazen and provocative attitude of the shipowners.

1. The shipowners have refused to answer yes or no to any of the union's demands.

2. The employers offered a five cent raise and then "snatched it back again."

3. The employers advanced union-busting counter-demands of "preferred gangs," boss-control of hiring halls, etc.

4. The employers are holding up $8,000,000 back pay awarded to the union by the WLB last August, which the bosses refuse to pay unless they are guaranteed full reimbursement by government agencies plus "bookkeeping expenses."

5. The employers have, in fact, refused to put any of the War Labor Board directives favoring the union into effect, although the union has fully complied with the WLB award.

6. The employers refused to negotiate unless the principle of retroactive pay was abandoned.

7. The employers refused to arbitrate on the same grounds. Bridges was especially indignant at this. The union committee had offered to submit **all disputed points to arbitration. (ILWU Dispatcher, January 11).**

8. Finally, the shipowners broke off negotiations on December 23, using as a pretext two minor work stoppages.

UNION PROPOSALS

The union proposals provide for $1.50 per hour for the first six hours of work between 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. Monday through Friday; $2.25 for work performed in excess of the first six hours between 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. Monday through Friday; $3.37½ for night work on Saturday, Sunday, holidays and for all night work in excess of six hours between 5 p. m. and 8 a. m. Monday through Friday.

Longshoremen now make $1.15 per hour on the basis of a six hour day, 36-hour week. Other than the five-cent wage increase awarded last August, west coast longshoremen have received no increases since February 1942. For four years the employers have followed a policy of stalling, together with an unceasing campaign against the union for lack of "efficiency" in support of the "war effort."

PROLONGED STRUGGLE

The Stalinist-Bridges leadership has faithfully trudged, step by step, through the maze of negotiation, conciliation and arbitration, all the while permitting the labor-management Pacific Coast Maritime Industry Board to cut into the hard earned gains achieved by the 1934 and 1937 strikes. During these prolonged negotiations the cost of living rose approximately 50 percent.

The impending struggle confirms the consistent prediction of **The Militant** that the boss-conciliation policies of the Bridges-Stalinist leadership were doomed to failure.

Until a few months ago Bridges was loudly talking about "60 million jobs, peace and prosperity." Any one who raised the question of strikes after the war was called a "provocateur." In 1944 Bridges attracted nationwide attention by saying that the strike weapon was out of date.

BRIDGES' PROPHECY

In a discussion before the California Labor School, July 27, 1944, speaking on the subject of postwar management-labor problems, Bridges broadcast the claim that though "there will continue to be differences between unions and employers — strikes won't help."

On December 16, 1944, the ILWU International Executive Board adopted a resolution which declared "we are firmly convinced that political action will be henceforth the main solution of our problems, and that economic action will be secondary or obsolete." By "political action," the Stalinist ILWU leaders meant campaigning for "progressive" capitalist politicians in support of the wage-freezing Democratic war administration.

A POSTWAR no-strike pledge was written into the Local 6 Warehousemen's master contract for 1945 in return for a five cent raise for women **only.** This contract was hailed as a "model" by the bosses and Stalinists.

PRAISE BY BOSSES

Labor denounced Bridges but industry praised him. Henry F. Grady, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce president and former head of the American President Lines, spoke before Local 1-10 on January 3, 1945. He congratulated the union on its "proper attitude" and especially praised its "fine leadership" and promised "if you are not unreasonable we will be able to cooperate in the postwar period and bring prosperity to all!" However both Grady and Bridges appear to have short memories.

Once again the longshoremen must take the road of struggle to achieve their just demands. The wartime Stalinist bilge about "identity of interests" between boss and worker has been dumped by millions of striking workers whose course the longshore ranks are preparing to follow. Conciliation has once again been proven to be ineffective in obtaining any gains for the workers. That the Bridges-Stalinist policy has exhausted the whole structure of peaceful negotiation is apparent to all the men. They are now preparing their forces for battle.

FIGHT OF ALL LABOR

Because of their integral role in the life of the west coast a longshoremen's strike would affect all industry connected with shipping.

A victory of the Longshoremen would give added impetus to all the other unions to press home their demand for wage increases to meet the increased cost of living, while any victory of the big shipowners in their union busting campaign against the longshoremen would strengthen the attack against all the other unions. Thus the fight of the longshoremen is the fight of all labor.

Truman Fights For Pauley Despite Bribe Revelations

(Continued from Page 1)

off legislation claiming federal title to the rich West Coast under-water oil lands which Pauley and other West Coast oil operators were profitably exploiting.

In the welter of charges and countercharges in Washington, one fact emerges clearly. For almost two years, Truman, Roosevelt and the heads of all the most important governmental departments, including the Justice Department — and even Harold Ickes himself—kept silent about the huge bribe offered the Democratic Party from Pauley and the West Coast oil interests and thereafter supported Pauley for important government posts.

This disclosure of corruption in the highest bodies of the administration is not only an indictment of Truman as the tool of the big oil interests, but serves to expose the role of such so-called "liberals" as Ickes in the Democratic Party machine.

ICKES PICKED PAULEY

While today fighting Pauley's appointment because he is an oil man, Ickes himself selected Pauley to work with him in the Petroleum Administration for War. Ickes and Pauley together selected Ralph Davies of Standard Oil of California, an even bigger oil man than Pauley, to be Ickes' right-hand man in that department.

Under questioning, Ickes tried to explain away his own appointments of big oil men as "an exception during a war emergency." But so well did Ickes guard the big oil interests during the war years that at the end of the war the oil magnates gave him a banquet in gratitude for his services. Now, because of rivalries between contending oil interests for control over federal posts, Ickes has broken with Pauley and pretends the break was caused solely by his regard for the public welfare.

WINDOW-DRESSING

These revelations show how the "liberals" in the Democratic administration act as window-dressing behind which filthy deals of graft and corruption are put over in the dark. Now that Ickes has squealed on the Democratic Party gang, Truman has already called his chiefs together to comb their party for another "liberal" to replace the discarded tool, Ickes.

Stalinists Settle Western Union Walkout With No Assured Gains

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

NEW YORK, Feb. 10—Harrassed and assaulted by the greatest concentration of scab-herding cops in the city's history, threatened with a strikebreaking injunction and pressured by their Stalinist union leaders to settle on almost any terms, the striking Western Union workers here voted yesterday to end their bitter 34-day struggle with no assured gains.

The leaders of the CIO American Communications Association, whose 7,000 members here went on strike January 8, agreed to accept a previously rejected National War Labor Board award. The only "concession" in what the Stalinist union leaders hastened to proclaim a "tremendous victory" was the company's agreement to arbitrate an "ambiguous" clause in the NWLB decision which the union claimed denied one section of the workers any increases at all.

However, the arbitration will not affect the total wage award, but merely the distribution among the various categories of workers. The workers had gone on strike originally because the NWLB directive had reversed a previous recommendation from the WLB regional panel. The regional board had proposed a general 10-cent an hour increase and other additional raises for various categories of workers. The NWLB denied a general increase and sliced $2,000,000 from the estimated $4,500,000 total increase proposed by the regional WLB. The final ruling was made one hour before the NWLB was dissolved on December 31, 1945, thus preventing an opportunity for appeal.

APPEAL TO O'DWYER

Before the strike, the ACA-CIO leaders had appealed to Mayor O'Dwyer, Tamany's newly-elected spokesman whom the Stalinists had supported in the November elections. O'Dwyer proposed acceptance of the rejected NWLB award and arbitration of one "ambiguous" clause respecting the distribution of the miserable total increase. The ACA leaders hastened to accept this proposal, but the company refused. The Stalinist union officials, frustrated in their hope that "labor's friend", O'Dwyer, would aid them, could find no further pretext for delaying strike action.

The ACA leaders in calling for the end of the strike peddled the false claim that the arbitration will involve the question of some $2,000,000 more than the NWLB order calls for. The actual agreement, however, is virtually identical with the phony proposal made by O'Dwyer. It must be remembered, that the entire struggle revolved around wage grants which the Western Union workers had been seeking since 1944 under the Little Steel formula, and which the Stalinist wartime no-strike policy had prevented them from securing.

The deal for this "victory" was consummated with the assistance of New York County Supreme Court Justice Aaron J. Levy, before whom hearings were being held on Western Union's appeal for an injunction banning mass picketing.

HELPING SCABS

At the opening of the hearings, Justice Levy had instructed O'Dwyer's cops to open the picket lines for the scabs, a chore which the brutal club wielding police had already been doing from the start of the strike. Justice Levy, who held the threat of an injunction over the strikers to impose a rotten settlement on them, was subsequently servilely thanked by ACA President Joseph P. Selly for "his earnest and equitable solution of this dispute."

Throughout the strike, the Stalinists concealed the viciously strikebreaking role of O'Dwyer, whose cops swarmed by the hundreds around the main strike area at the Western Union building, 60 Hudson Street. Almost daily, the police clubbed, intimidated and arrested pickets and opened the way for scabs to go through the lines almost at will. At times the police outnumbered pickets 20 to one—750 cops to 35 strikers.

It was the failure of the Stalinists to organize a genuine struggle to keep out the scabs that ultimately weakened the morale of the strike and forced the workers to agree to go back with no gains. The Stalinists, who dominate the Greater New York City CIO Council representing 600,000 workers, made all kinds of threats and gestures but made no real effort to maintain air-tight picket lines.

That tens of thousands of CIO workers thoroughly angered by the police brutality, were ready and eager to go to the aid of the Western Union workers was indicated when the delegates to the CIO Council voted unanimously for a two-hour city-wide CIO work stoppage that was to have been held on February 11. But even this was not intended by the Stalinists as a serious move to keep out the Western Union scabs. The stoppage was deliberately fixed at between four and six p.m., when many workers are already through work. They also called for a rally to be held by agreement with the police ONE BLOCK AWAY from the main picket line.

NEW PRETEXT

The Stalinist CIO Council leaders then found a pretext for cancelling the general stoppage when CIO President Philip Murray proclaimed that the "national CIO disapproves of city-wide shutdowns." When the CIO ever took a position on this, nobody knows. But it is believed that Murray intervened at the behest of Social-Democrats and other "anti-Communist" elements in the leadership of important local CIO unions who were opposed to aiding the Western Union strike because it was being led by "communists." These opponents of the Stalinists put their own clique interests above their duty to give all possible aid to the just strike of the Western Union workers.

There is no question that the Western Union strikers put up a militant and courageous struggle, but they could not win alone against the overwhelming weight of O'Dwyer's cops and the fear of their leaders to organize an effective mass fight to keep the scabs out permanently.

The chief responsibility for the failure to win any gains rests with the Stalinists. They were more concerned with preserving good relations with their "pal" O'Dwyer and maintaining their smelly political alliance with Tammany, than in conducting the all-out out effective fight, which was possible with the tremendous membership and resources of the New York CIO.

Pioneer Growth Shown By New Issue Of Catalog

Pioneer Publishers announces that its new catalog with a complete listing of all Pioneer publications now in stock, is off the press. The rapid growth of Pioneer's publishing program is indicated by the fact that seven new books and pamphlets are listed which were published in the last year and a half since the previous catalog was issued.

Among these are the two recently-published books of Leon Trotsky, **The First Five Years of the Communist International and The Revolution Betrayed.**

The catalog also announces the program of publications which Pioneer is now preparing. A major part of this program is the republishing of numerous out-of-print works of Leon Trotsky, including **The Permanent Revolution, Whither England,** etc. Also announced is the "Pioneer Pocket Library," a new series of small inexpensive books. The first in this series will be **The Founding Conference of the Fourth International** which has recently gone out of print.

This catalog offers a convenient method for ordering Pioneer's books and pamphlets on socialism and the labor movement. It will be sent free to anyone on request.

Newark Workers Hear Lecture On Strike Wave

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 12—The largest audience at a Socialist Workers Party forum here in several years assembled last night to hear William Warde, associate editor of **The Militant** speak on "The Meaning of the Strike Wave."

Warde analyzed the wartime background of labor's frozen wages and explained the deep-going significance of the strike upsurge. He declared that this strike wave represents the high-water mark of American labor's struggle.

Warde stressed the need for a labor party to consolidate and extend the union's struggles. He explained such transitional slogans of the Trotskyists as "Open the Books of the Corporations" and how they are being translated into action by the most progressive forces in the unions.

Much favorable comment was heard on the hall's decorations, centered around a large collection of photos from many picket lines.

A collection of $24 was contributed toward the work of the SWP in this area.

Protest The Murders Of The Ferguson Brothers!

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Socialist Workers Party

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Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

Ferguson Kin In Plea For Justice Tell Tragic Story To 'The Militant'

By William S. Farrell
(Special to The Militant)

FREEPORT, N. Y., Feb. 16—Mrs. Charles Ferguson, widow of murdered Pfc. Charles Ferguson, lives with her three small children in a little house about ten minutes ride on the bus from Freeport. Charles and his brother, Alfonso, were shot dead on February 5, and another brother, Joseph, was critically wounded by a Freeport cop drunk with race-hate.

In the house this afternoon, I met Richard Ferguson, a fourth brother who had been railroaded to jail from which he was just released on a $100 bond. Richard is a 3rd Army combat veteran with over three years' service, and two bronze stars on his ETO ribbon.

Present with the stunned and bereaved family was Edward Ferguson, the fifth brother, who is also an Army veteran. Edward was in Washington, D. C., at the time of the murder and left his job as a truck driver to assist the family. He belongs to the AFL Teamsters and Chauffeurs.

"Let's see your paper," demanded Richard when I introduced myself. "I've sure read a lot of lies about this thing in some newspapers . . . " His suspicion of reporters was more than well-founded . . . I gave him a copy of **The Militant** and he read it through in silence. Then he handed it to his brother-in-law to read and looked up. "That's all right. **IT'S ON OUR SIDE.**" Immediately the atmosphere changed from suspicion to warm and friendly invitations to "Come in."

Mrs. Ferguson asked me what they could do to bring the policeman who shot her husband and his brothers to justice. "If they can kill Charles and Al they will kill more boys. It's been bad enough around here the way they treat colored people, but now they have started shooting at us."

"Yes," added Richard, "that policeman shot at us and he shot to kill. Since when can they shoot people for disorderly conduct? And we weren't even guilty of that . . . "

Not Even Informed Of Murders

Mrs. Ferguson held back tears as she told me how she had found out about the death of her husband. "No one came around to tell me anything about it. The first I knew was when I met Herman Crummel's mother on the street the next day. We got to the hospital just too late to see Al. He died a few minutes before we got there."

Charles Ferguson had been killed instantly when policeman Romeika shot him in the head. Alfonso, the youngest brother and only civilian in the family of five brothers, died nine hours after the shooting. He had been hit in the head by a bullet fired at Joseph. The bullet went through Joseph's left shoulder and hit Alfonso in the temple.

Joseph Ferguson, Ship's Cook 3/c, is in the sick bay of the Lido Beach Separation Center brig awaiting court martial. He is recovering from the wound.

Richard, who went to jail on a trumped-up charge of "disorderly conduct," explained what happened to him. "I was so dazed and confused I didn't know what was going on. The police asked me a lot of questions. They told me it would be best if I got the trial over with right away. After filling out a lot of papers and answering a lot of questions they took me upstairs and held a trial in the morning."

Not knowing his rights, not knowing if Alfonso, Joseph and Charles were dead, Richard was obviously in no condition to be questioned, let alone tried.

"That jail in Freeport is the worst place I ever saw. It was cold and dirty and I never suffered so much worrying about what happened to Charlie and Al and Joe . . . " Richard added.

I enquired about Herman Crummel who, it is reported, may be a witness for the State against the Ferguson brothers "Poor Herman don't know what he is saying," said Mrs Ferguson "He just keeps saying the same thing over and over like he learned it by heart. He's got a record of four arrests against him and I guess he's afraid of the police."

Herman Crummel happened along the night the Ferguson boys were lined up by policeman Romeika. He, too, was ordered to raise his hands and get in line although he had done nothing but appear on the scene of the arrest.

According to people who have talked with him he claims he saw Charles shot but that he covered his eyes with his arm when the other shots were fired. Later he was taken with Richard to the police station but not booked or held. He is reported to have stated that Charles threatened the policeman by saying "I've got a .45." But no gun was found on any of the Ferguson brothers and no one claims to have even seen a gun.

Cop Must Be Brought To Justice

"Why did the cop shoot to kill at such close range?" asked Richard. "Why, if only one man is supposed to have had a gun did the cop shoot three men?" he continued. "That cop must be brought to justice, I say!"

While we were talking Mrs. Ferguson's three small children scrambled about, too young to realize the extent of the terrible tragedy that left them fatherless. With large, expressive eyes, quick smiles and nimble feet they dodged in and out, around the grown-ups.

Some day they will understand that their father, a veteran of the "war for democracy," was the victim of mad race-hatred, murdered in America because he dared to ask for a cup of coffee in a public lunch room.

The four Ferguson brothers, Alfonso, top left, Charles, top right; Joseph, bottom left; Richard, bottom right. Charles and Alfonso were murdered, Joseph was wounded, and Richard framed up in the savage Jim-Crow police assault at Freeport. These sketches were made by MILITANT staff artist Evelyn Atwood from photographs provided by the family.

ANTI-FASCIST PICKETS FACE FRAMEUP IN L.A.

By William Van

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8—Continuing the city administration's effort to assist Fascist G.L.K. Smith in gaining a foothold in Los Angeles, the Municipal Court of Judge Arthur S. Guerin has brought to trial on charges of disturbing the peace, 48 people who dared show their hatred of fascism by booing at a Smith meeting.

Since the trial opened on January 29, the Court has continuously demonstrated its prejudice against the anti-fascist defendants, 22 of whom finally had to be released for lack of evidence.

WITCH HUNT

At the session today, the court resembled a Dies Committee hearing room as City Prosecutor Roland Wilson tried to prove a "red conspiracy" behind protests against G. L. K. Smith. He accused the defendants of being "conspirators" who booed and hissed the pledge of allegiance to the flag and the Lords' prayer.

"You are turning this case into a Dies-Tenney witch hunt," Defense Attorney John McTernan charged Wilson.

Since the start of the trial, McTernan has been repeatedly fined and held in contempt of court by Judge Guerin as he protested against the biased procedure of the court. Today, after McTernan twice demanded a new trial, charging the judge with misconduct, Judge Guerin warned that next time he would be thrown in jail.

On February 1, defendant Ann Draper arrived seven minutes late for the trial and explained she was sick.

"You don't look sick," replied Guerin as he held her in contempt and fined her $50 or five days in jail.

An hour later Dr. Marcus E. Graham, jail physician, examined the defendant and said she had the flu.

The attitude of the entire city administration towards fascists has thus been revealed. The first sympathetic symptom towards G. L. K. Smith became evident when the school board twice last year granted Smith permission to speak in the public schools; despite the thousands of workers and students who had demonstrated against it.

The second department of the administration to pledge its allegiance was the police department. They guaranteed Smith an audience by contributing hundreds of police armed with guns, clubs and gas masks to keep order in his meetings and escort his audience through the picket lines which gathered in front of Smith's meeting halls.

Now the circle is complete. The courts, too, have displayed their hostility to anti-fascists.

Protests Mount In Murder Of Negro Veterans

(Continued from Page 1)

with prolonged applause and several other speakers heartily endorsed it.

Stanley Faulkner, lawyer and ALP member, who is conducting the defense of the Ferguson brothers, announced that in line with the SWP proposal a conference of 27 organizations would be held on Sunday, February 24, to set up a broad Ferguson Case Committee.

A representative of the Brooklyn NAACP announced from the floor that next Sunday, February 24, a mass protest meeting would be held at 8 p.m. in the Imperial Hall, 160 West 129th Street (near 7th Ave.) in New York City, at which Louise Simpson, Trotskyist candidate for City Council in the last elections, William Prince, Democratic Assemblyman from Harlem and others will speak.

A speaker from the Calvin Adams Post of the American Legion announced that his post was the first to take action on this case and considered it "a prime duty" to make this issue a national fight for justice to the Ferguson family. "We are sending our resolution calling for a public investigation to all American Legion posts throughout the country," he said.

While this meeting was under way in Freeport, the scene of the brutal Ferguson murders, similar protest meetings were being conducted throughout New York City by branches of the Socialist Workers Party.

Louise Simpson, Trotskyist speaker and candidate in the last election, spoke in the Bronx Branch. Rudy Murdock, militant trade unionist, spoke at the Brooklyn Branch. In Harlem, William S. Farrell, Staff Reporter for **The Militant**, spoke at the Harlem Militant Readers Forum. Resolutions condemning the police brutality and calling for action on the case were passed at all three meetings.

Plans were announced for public meetings on this case in Newark and Bayonne, New Jersey, where Louise Simpson and William Farrell will speak. In Philadelphia and other cities meetings are being organized to acquaint the public with the facts of this case and to mobilize this fight for justice and against legal lynch law.

The NEGRO STRUGGLE

"Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded."
—KARL MARX

by CHARLES JACKSON

Mr. Rockefeller and His Negro Colleges

John D Rockefeller, Jr. has launched his annual appeal for contributions to the United Negro College Fund of which he is national chairman. The fund seeks $1,300,000 for the continued maintenance of 32 small, private Negro colleges.

For this, some Negroes shout his praises. They ask: "Aren't Negroes denied entrance to practically all white institutions of higher learning in the South and to many in the North? Under the circumstances, don't we need financial support for our own colleges so that our boys will have a chance for higher education too?

"After all," they reason, "John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and people of his class are openly contributing their time, effort and money to assure the survival of these colleges. Maybe these big, bad capitalists that the Trotskyists are always talking about mean to be nice to us Negroes, after all."

Such has been the build-up for Mr. Rockefeller in certain quarters since he launched this drive.

The simple fact, however, is this: Big Business does not give anything away out of the goodness of its heart. As a rule, its representatives only expend their money and energy when they are assured of receiving a proportionate return in one form or another on their investment.

But how could such an apparently sincere philanthropy as maintenance of Negro colleges pay any dividends to Mr. Rockefeller and his friends? Are we being a trifle far-fetched? Not by a long shot.

It is no coincidence that this and similar funds are largely backed by certain wealthy individuals and big corporations. This class of people are altruistic, all right—like a fox. They are the same people who have extracted tremendous profits as a result of their monopoly of this earth's natural resources and by the exploitation of human labor. This state of affairs can continue only so long as the present system of economic anarchy obtains.

Here, then, is the key. These colleges, as they are operated today, serve in an indirect manner as props for capitalism — that system by which the Rockefellers and others have grabbed billions of dollars at the expense of the masses.

Practically all of these private colleges that are to benefit from this fund are located in the South. Any institution allowed to exist down there must abide by the general practice of teaching meekness and submission for the Negro.

The official policy of any Negro "educational" institution under those circumstances must be pro-segregation, pro-white supremacy and anti-militancy. It is because of this racial separatism and the resulting prejudices that the wealthy landowners and industrialists (usually backed by Northern money) are able to keep the wages and living conditions of the white and Negro workers so low in the South. In this way the pro-segregation practice of these colleges is also pro-capitalist.

The president of such a school is usually either an "Uncle Tom" Negro or some worn-out white missionary. The boards of directors are made up of high caste, wealthy conservatives. The instructors most sure to retain their jobs are the most reactionary.

For example, in the orientation courses at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., you are taught to consider yourself above the masses. This same practice is reported at many other small Negro colleges. You are given to understand that those who are not fortunate enough to be able to go to college are mentally unable to solve their sociological problems.

Religion is played up big. Capitalist government practices are rigidly defended. Struggles for complete racial equality are ridiculed as utopian. Jim Crowism is sanctioned. Militant methods of struggle are ridiculed and discouraged. The discussion of revolutionary socialism is strictly taboo. Whoever differs too vigorously with this reactionary policy leaves himself open to expulsion.

WHY KEEP JIM CROW?

What happens, then, is that the cream of Negro youth, following the natural desire for further understanding and better opportunity, is drained into the churn of these Negro colleges where every militant tendency that could be of service in liberating the Negro people is destroyed under the incessant pounding of capitalist miseducation.

Furthermore, why should we have all-Negro colleges? Even though there are probably no white applicants (except occasionally Jews who are also widely discriminated against in higher education) still the all-Negro policy is just as obnoxious as that of many white universities which bar Negro students.

If Mr. Rockefeller is really interested in more equal opportunities for the Negro people why should he make this appeal for the salvation of these 32 little Jim Crow colleges? He should, instead, campaign to stop the thousands of other colleges from barring a student because of color. As far as the masses are concerned, capitalist subsidization of Jim Crow colleges is a step with the wrong foot and in the wrong direction.

Striking Indiana Veterans Put Governor On The Spot

INDIANA HARBOR, Ind., Feb 8—Over 100 striking veterans, members of CIO United Steelworkers of America, District 31, Sub-district 2, left Indiana Harbor by motorcade in 20 cars last night and drove to the Governor's office in Indianapolis for a demonstation beginning at 9:30 this morning before the state capitol.

At Indianapolis the singing and shouting veterans demonstrated their solidarity with the striking civilian steelworkers and protested against the government's use of the GI Bill of Rights as a strikebreaking weapon.

This action was taken after a meeting called last night by the veterans' organization, representing 28 steel locals in this area, to protest against the use of strike clauses in the state unemployment insurance law which cut off unemployment compensation for striking war veterans. At this meeting a resolution was also unanimously adopted condemning George P. McNear, President of the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railway, whose gunmen deliberately murdered two unarmed railroad strikers and demanding that McNear and his hired murderers be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

At 10 o'clock this morning the demonstrating veterans were ushered into the office of Governor Ralph M. Gates, to whom they presented the five demands voted by their organization on the previous night. They demanded that the Governor call a special session of the Indiana State Legislature for the purpose of obtaining:

1. Unemployment compensation without strike clauses,
2. Low-cost housing for the workers in the over-crowded industrial areas of the state,
3. Adequate hospitalization facilities for veterans,
4. State bonus for veterans,
5. Endorsement of an amendment to the GI Bill of Rights to eliminate strike clauses denying jobless payments to strikers.

During the conference the Governor claimed he was a "friend of labor;" that "the Governor of your state has the interests of all its citizens in mind at all times." But he showed his real colors when he refused to to do anything at all for the veterans, dodged the issue of calling a special session of the legislature and finally shouted: "You can't high-pressure me!"

In response to this runaround, the veterans again took up their placards and paraded around the state capitol, after which they marched back to the local CIO Auto Workers' hall to hear reports on the conference and discuss further action.

NEWARK
Saturday Social
Feb. 23
Music . . . Refreshments
Everyone Welcome!
Socialist Workers Party
423 Springfield Ave.

SAN DIEGO
Hear MYRA TANNER WEISS
speak on
VIGILANTE TERROR IN FONTANA
The Facts of the Case and How To Combat Vigilante Actions
FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 8 p.m.
Young People's Community Center
2936 Imperial Avenue

SWP Organizer Calls For Action In Fontana Vigilante Fire Case

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Feb. 11 — A call to action against the rising wave of vigilante terror in California was sounded here last night. Speaking to a meeting of more than 65 friends of the Socialist Workers Party, Myra Tanner Weiss, Los Angeles SWP organizer, revealed the full implication of the terror in Fontana that resulted in the deaths of O'Day Short and his family.

O'Day H. Short was a fighter, Comrade Weiss pointed out. Threatened by vigilantes who sought to force him out of a so-called "restricted" area, he stood his ground. Local officials and the FBI, though told of the threats, failed to act. As a result of this criminal negligence, the terrorists were able to carry out their crime.

Also vicious was the inquest into the deaths of Helen Short and her two children, Comrade Weiss explained. The government officials, themselves implicated in the threats, were able to stop all investigation into vigilante threats that preceded the fire. And this despite expert opinion that arson was involved.

An attempt is now being made to hush up the case. Attorney-General Robert J. Kenney, self-styled "friend of labor," has remained silent. With his eyes on the governorship, Kenney doesn't want to antagonize the reactionary farm owners to whom terror has always been a favorite weapon against labor. The Communist (Stalinist) Party has confined itself to literary protests so as not to embarrass Kenney.

This conspiracy of silence, the speaker emphasized, can and must be broken. The vigilantes must not be allowed to go unchallenged. They have taken new courage from the official whitewash and the incidents of terror will be bound to multiply. Nor will the attacks stop with the Negro population. Unless the criminals are rounded up and tried, the vigilantes will take the offensive against all sections of the labor movement.

Comrade Myra Weiss urged her audience to spread the story of Fontana, to pass resolutions in their unions and other groups demanding a grand jury investigation, and to organize defense guards against new vigilante threats.

A letter from Joseph James, President of the San Francisco Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was read to the meeting, Mr. James' letter said in part: "No person conversant with the facts of the case before us can have the slightest doubt that the Short family were victims of deliberately murderous vigilante terrorism. The perpetrators are known to all authorities having to do with the enforcement of the law . . . We know that these things do not 'just happen,' but that they are the result of fundamental weakness in the whole American social structure."

A collection of $60 was raised to help in the fight against the vigilantes, and a resolution demanding action from Attorney-General Kenney was voted unanimously.

"FONTANA"

The shadowed pack in skulking gloom
Are poised for brief affray,
And mark the peaceful, sleeping home
Like carrion beasts of prey . . .
No hint of mercy in their act
A sudden burst of flame,
The faggot flung from out the dark
From whence their courage came . . .
This is the bravery of their deed—
A father and his dead;
While cringing justice mocks its name
And bows its craven head . . .

Eddie Dumaine

Socialist Workers Party Branch Activities

AKRON — Visit **The Militant** Club, 405-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p. m.; also Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 to 9:30. Current events discussion Wednesday evenings. Fridays at 7:30, class on 'Forward March of American Labor.'

March 1, 7:30 p.m. "The American Federation of Labor and the Industrial Workers of the World," by Mary Clark.

Afternoon sessions on same series of lectures every Friday by Milton Genecin.

ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM — Open meeting every Friday, 8 p.m., at **Militant Labor Forum**, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.

Public Forums—First Sunday each month, 2:15 p.m.

BOSTON—Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Mondays and Saturdays from noon until 5 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

BUFFALO — Every Saturday night, **Current Events Discussion and Open House**, at Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

CHICAGO — Visit SWP, 160 N. Wells, R. 317. Open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 7562.

CLEVELAND — Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St.

DETROIT—Forums on topical questions every Sunday. 3 p.m. at 6108 Linwood. Office open daily 10 to 6. Phone Tyler 7-6267.

KANSAS CITY — SWP Branch meets Saturday, 8 p.m. Rm. 203, Studio Bldg., 418 E. 9th St., for study and discussion.

LOS ANGELES — Visit SWP headquarters, 145 S. Broadway, San Pedro, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

MILWAUKEE — Visit the Milwaukee branch of the SWP at its headquarters, 424 E. Wells St., any evening from 7:30.

MINNEAPOLIS—Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Forum every Sunday, 3:30.

NEWARK — Open forum every Friday at the Socialist Workers Party, 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30.

Reading room and office open Mondays-Thursdays, 4 to 10 p.m.

Militant Readers' Discussion Group meets every Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 23—Social evening.

NEW YORK CENTRAL, 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149.

Saturdays at 4 p.m., rehearsals of Trotskyist chorus. Militant readers invited.

All Sunday Forums in N. Y. will be resumed March 10.

BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor.

BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St. Open 1 to 9. Phone ST. 3-7433.

HARLEM: 103 W. 110th St., room 23. Phone MO. 2-1866. Office open Monday through Thursday, 1 to 4:30; Fridays and Sundays, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA — SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open forums every Friday, 8 p.m., on current topics.

Classes on Lenin's "State and Revolution," every Sunday, 7 p.m.

Office and bookshop open every day.

PITTSBURGH—Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 5905 Penn Ave., corner Penn. Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6:30 to 9:30. Sundays at 7:30: Round Table Discussion on "News of the Week in **The Militant**."

Feb. 24, 8 p.m., "The Role of the Communist Party in the Labor Movement," by Bill Carloy.

PORTLAND, Ore. — Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd Floor. Tel ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p.m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday.

SAN FRANCISCO — Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor: open from 12 noon to 3 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 7 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Friday night study groups: 'Introduction to Trotskyism, 7:30 p.m.: 'History of Democratic Centralism,' 8:40 p.m.

SEATTLE—Visit our Headquarters, 1919½ Second Ave.

ST. LOUIS—Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday through Saturday from 12 to 2 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8 to 10 p.m.

TOLEDO—Forums every Tuesday. 8:00 p.m., James Apartments, 213 Michigan St. Open evenings, 7-9.

YOUNGSTOWN — Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Diary Of A Steelworker *By T. Kovalesky*

Letter To a Fellow Steel Worker

Dear Tony:

I've been meaning to write you before, but I've been so busy it's been hard even to find time to eat or sleep. But there are a few things I'd like to say.

Remember how you used to say we couldn't get anywhere, because the workers were so damn sleepy and slow?

Well, look at us today! We woke up — at least part way. Three-quarters of a million steel workers all over the country woke up and speeded up enough to shut down the mightiest factories in the world! Stop a minute and think: U. S. Steel, Carnegie-Illinois, Bethlehem, Republic — what do those names mean ?

Each and every one of them means POWER. Those names mean mines and railroads, shipping lines; they mean great, roaring blast furnaces and millions, billions of dollars worth of fiery open hearths; they mean grimy coke ovens, clattering mills, and fabricating shops flashing blue in the glare of the welder's torch. These names mean greater wealth than you and I can imagine, for we have nothing in our own lives to compare it to. They mean black factories scattered and clustered over miles of scarred earth, and steel and concrete banks and clearing houses, and senators and presidents, and international trusts and cartels, and governments and armies, and tyranny, bloodshed and anguish. They mean POWER!

And, Tony, you and I—and three-quarters of a million more guys like us, ordinary guys like Slim, Red, Jimmy, Pete, Stash, Kelly, and old man Mike — we've shut these plants down so tight they haven't dared to try and open up! The names Gary, Johnstown, Indiana Harbor, Youngstown, Lackawanna, South Chicago — are names not of dirty steel mill towns of corrugated iron giants and meek subject peoples: These names mean silent plants and picket lines!

Oh, yes, Tony. We've risen in our strength. We've struck a crushing blow, and our battle is a victorious one. Still, as I said — we have awakened only part way.

Our demands? They're won. We fought for 18½ cents, and it's ours. But it's not as easy as that!

Our raise will very soon mean nothing at all. The cost of living will climb steadily higher, and we'll be right back where we were and we'll have to organize our picket lines all over again. And then we'll wake up some more!

We knew enough this time to walk out of our plants. We'll know enough next time to fight against government interference and rising costs. And before long, we'll wake up enough so that all of us, you, me, Slim, Red, Jimmy, Pete, Stash, Kelly and Old Man Mike, won't be satisfied with striking the plants and then handing them back to the companies. W'ell take them, and we'll keep them; and we'll make our own standard of living, our own world.

We'll wake up some more, Tony, in a little while when the time has come — and the result of our full awakening will be called . . . SOCIALISM.

Fraternally,
Ted Kovalesky

Notes Of A Seaman *By Art Sharon*

The old man walked into the union hall and looked around as though in bewilderment. He still couldn't get over the union halls today as compared to when he had first joined the union.

From the cut of his jib you could spot him as a man who felt at home only in the focs'le. His old-fashioned black suit had been worn so infrequently in the past fifteen years that it looked almost new. His brand new wool cap, perched on top of his head, his clean white shirt with an uncomfortable collar and his unaccustomed tie—all these amenities of shore dress bespoke a sailor coming ashore to deal with the authorities.

Yes, he was in trouble. Speaking with a marked Scandinavian accent, the old-timer poured out his indignation to the listening union patrolman. They had taken his shipping papers away from him and told him that he must enter the Marine Hospital for awhile and that after the hospital released him they would give him an examination to see if he was fit to sail anymore.

From the time he shipped out from Norway 3? years ago, he had spent his entire life in the focs'les of ships under every flag. Now he was being told that he was finished. The doctor who had examined him and who had shaken his head over the old-timer's severe rheumatism advised him that "perhaps" he could get a job as a watchman for a shipping company.

• • •

I asked the old timer to join me over a cup of coffee. He accepted and we walked in together and sat down. For a few minutes we sat there quietly. I kept my eyes on his large gnarled hands. On one of them, between the thumb and forefinger, you could make out the faint blue outline of a tattooed anchor. On the other, there was a letter clearly marked on each finger just below the knuckle. I peered closer and spelled out UNITY.

He saw my surprise and a smile lit up his weather beaten face. "This anchor here," he began, "was put on in Copenhagen on my first trip." "This," he held out his other hand, "I had tattooed on in San Francisco in 1923. That was before your time. We were on strike then and the gang walked off the ship together.

"We went into a Chinese tattooer on Mission street and had him put this on the left hand of every man."

• • •

He laughed to himself and his immediate troubles were forgotten. He reached into his inside coat pocket and pulled out an old black wallet, bulging with papers, held together by a thick rubber band. Taking the band off he picked out a few well worn cards, picket cards for the 1921 strike, a strike in 1923, the strike of 1934 and the strike of 1936.

Here were mementoes of epic labor struggle on the waterfront. Here was mute evidence of the continuous battles waged against the vile conditions forced on the men who manned the ships before '34 and '36.

Tiny damp focs'les, mattress stuffed with a "mule's breakfast," the two watch system, the regular "field day for Jesus," wormy grub eaten out of tin plates, the power of the shipping crimp —all that was gone now, thanks to the never ceasing struggle of men like him.

• • •

He fingered his priceless cards talking about each strike they represented and then carefully stowed them away in his wallet. As he did so I caught a glimpse of several pictures of women. He took them out and I looked them over.

They were old pictures, yellow and cracked. "Were these your old girl friends?" I asked. "That they were," was his answer. He reached over and pointed out one. "Her name was Irene." I politely studied the picture of a smiling woman dressed in the style of the early twenties. He explained, "She helped in the soup kitchen during the strike of 1921 down in San Pedro.

"That was a hard and long strike and they finally beat us. She fed and cared for me after the strike was over and I couldn't get a ship for eleven months. She was a rebel and hated the ship owners like any sailor."

He put his wallet back into his pocket and turned to his coffee. He stopped talking and I didn't press him. His face became completely devoid of emotion. His hand shook a little as he lifted the cup to his lips. He looked very old and very tired.

Like the old scows heading for the boneyard he too was going to his boneyard. The maritime industry under its private capitalist ownership had extracted the last hour of labor from him. Out of misery and toil like his, great fortunes were made. But now there was no more profit to be squeezed out of him.

Two Kinds Of Justice *By Grace Carlson*

In a sensational article in the March issue of **The American Magazine**, FBI head J. Edgar Hoover writes on **The Rising Crime Wave.** "Our war is not over," says G-Man Hoover. "It merely has shifted from a fight against criminal armies on the foreign fronts of the world to a fight against an army of criminals on the front of law enforcement here at home . . . There is an army of at least 6,000,000 criminals in the United States today—one criminal for every 23 inhabitants of the nation. Their fingerprints and the records of their arrests are in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington."

I am one of the FBI's "6,000,000 criminals," myself. So are the 17 other prisoners in the Minneapolis Labor Case. Our fingerprints, our photographs and our case histories are in its Washington files. Our "crime" consisted of telling the workers the truth about the imperialist war and in militantly defending their interests. While I was serving my sentence in the Federal prison for women at Alderson, West Virginia, I met hundreds of other members of Hoover's "army of criminals."

There was Maggie Owens, for example. (This is not her real name but it is her true story.) A spry independent little woman of sixty-nine, Maggie Owens tried to make a living in a poor community in the hills of Kentucky. But the Federal Government did not approve of her business activities. J. Edgar Hoover's G-Men swooped down on her and she was sent to the penitentiary on a charge of violating the federal liquor laws.

And there was sixteen-year-old Betty Sue Tucker. (This isn't her real name either.) Pretty, blue-eyed, black-haired Betty Sue worked in a cotton mill in Fayetteville, North Carolina, for miserable wages. Until the war came and an army camp was established at Fayetteville, Betty Sue had very few dates with boys and very little fun. Then, she began to go out with one of the soldiers from the camp. But her path of love did not "run smooth." The soldier was transferred to another camp and Betty Sue was indicted by the FBI as a violator of the May Act —a law set up to protect the "morals" of the soldiers. She was sent to the federal prison to serve a year's sentence. Her baby was born there six months after she was admitted.

Do you think that these people are "criminals," Mr. Hoover? I don't! No decent person could think so. Any human being with a spark of compassion feels that the Maggie Owens' and Sue Tuckers' in our jails and prisons are "more sinned against than sinning." These are not criminals!

But I can tell you where you can find a real criminal, Mr. Hoover. He is former Federal Judge Albert Johnson of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Even the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, which is usually very lenient in its judgment of criminals in high places, says that Johnson was guilty of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

Judge Johnson's many crimes are listed in the Judiciary Committee's report, issued on February 6. This report says:

"Almost every litigant who had the misfortune to appear before this wicked and malicious judge became the immediate object of a crooked conspiracy whose sole interest was the amount of money that could be extorted from him for justice or the evasion of justice."

Judge Johnson was further accused of having compelled his official secretary and deputized court clerks "to rent apartments in the buildings he owned at higher rentals than other tenants were paying him" and of compelling them "to do the menial work of servants in his home, dusting, cleaning and even washing his floors."

What do you suppose happened to this crooked judge? Has he been sentenced to a long prison term? Not at all! The House Judiciary Committee said that Johnson's crimes would ordinarily call for impeachment. But it did not request impeachment because the judge already had resigned and waived retirement rights!

So, there is ex-Judge Johnson living happily and comfortably on the fat fees and graft which he extorted from many hundreds of victims during his more than 20 years as a Federal Judge!

Now, here is your chance, Mr. Hoover, to demonstrate to the citizens that "crime doesn't pay." Go after this "wicked and malicious" judge! See that he is punished for his violations of a couple of dozen federal laws! Put this criminal behind bars!

Otherwise, a lot of us are going to think that the FBI is enforcing a different kind of "justice" against the poor, than against the rich. We are going to be forced to conclude that crime in high places does pay!

Lancaster AFL Calls City General Strike To Halt Police Terror In Transit Walkout

By Robert Oliver

(Special to The Militant)

LANCASTER, Pa., Feb. 18—A general strike of AFL unions began here today to halt the savage police terror and scab-herding against striking transit workers and in protest against the arrests Saturday of James Yoder, president of the street-car and bus workers local, and A. H. Keeler, international representative of the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, on a frame-up charge of "inciting to riot."

More than 3,000 pickets this morning swarmed to the aid of the 230 transit strikers at the call of Miles Mesterman, President of the AFL Central Labor Union. For the first time during the strike not a bus moved.

In addition, the CLU has halted all trucks and busses manned by AFL drivers entering or leaving Lancaster. Pickets have also been stationed at Armstrong Cork, U. S. Asbestos, RCA Victor and Hamilton Watch plants, as well as many stores.

Acting Mayor Coulter fearfully called a "state of emergency" and has appealed for state police and possibly the State Guards.

The Central Labor Union has asked the CIO Council to join the city-wide shutdown and the CIO is holding an emergency meeting tonight.

The general strike is growing in effect. Early in the morning some of the workers uninformed of the strike call went to work. By tonight, however, it was expected that most of the AFL plants will be totally shut down.

• • •

LANCASTER, Pa., Feb. 12—This is a city ruled by the policeman's club and terror. The strike of 230 employes of the Conestoga Transportation Company, operators of the trolleys and buses, has been marked with almost daily brutal assaults by the police, who swing their clubs freely upon peaceful pickets and bystanders.

Many strikers, including returned veterans, have been sent to the hospitals with fractured ribs, noses, etc., as the police and city government seek to aid the labor-hating transit company to resume operations with strike-breakers.

SUB-STANDARD PAY

The strike was called February 5 by Local 1241, AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, to secure a 20 per cent wage increase and to compel the company to abide by agreements made after two strikes in 1945. The company is determined to smash the union and return to "the good old days" before the workers were organized and wage rates were 50 per cent lower although even today Conestoga pays less than the standard rates of other comparable companies.

The Conestoga Company has refused even to meet to discuss grievances with the union. The entire labor movement here recognizes that this is the first blow in an attempt to destroy the unions in this commercial and branch factory center of the rich eastern Pennsylvania agricultural area.

The Central Labor Union has voted support. Workers at Malleable Iron Company in a one-day sympathy stoppage joined the bus drivers' picket lines last week. The Lancaster County CIO Council voted full support and appointed a special committee to work with the local AFL. Many small businessmen are also voicing support of the strike.

However, aided by the police, the company has managed to operate about 20 per cent of its bus service with scabs, including a few misguided veterans and former Army Officers, a fact which the press has blown up to immense proportions.

GALLANT FIGHT

The trolley cars, however, haven't moved. The strikers, in a gallant fight, turn out almost full-strength every morning to re-establish their lines in the face of savage police terror. Mayor Daniel Coulter and other officials witness the police brutality, but take no step to halt it.

At a small store where we stopped on our way to the Central Labor Union Hall, we met one of the strikers, a recently discharged veteran who had seen combat overseas.

"I had no idea it could happen over here," he said. "Saturday we were peacefully marching around the barn. Without warning, the cops charged with their clubs. Fifty of them, plus about another fifty company thugs, against our unarmed lines. They didn't try to push us back, as we might expect. They deliberately sought to injure us. I got hit repeatedly across the face. It was impossible to defend myself.

'WORSE THAN GERMANY'

"It was worse than Germany! I'd rather face the German storm-troopers again. At least there I had weapons in my hands. Of course, our line was broken."

At the Central Labor Union, when I told several strikers that I was a reporter, they were at first understandably hostile. However, when I explained that I was not from the Lancaster boss papers, immediately their attitude became friendly. The **Militants** I passed around were eagerly taken. One striker, an ex-GI exclaimed: "Gosh! They let you print that! I thought there was a law against printing the truth about labor, from what I have seen in the papers around here!"

Then he became eager to tell me their side of the strike, while another volunteered to try to bring the local union president down to see me. The GI was a veteran of the convoy service and had seen action on the "Murmansk run." He had battle-wounds too — several fractured ribs from scab-herding policemen's clubs.

The Local union president, James Yoder, came down to speak to us. He said: "The people of the community approve of what we are fighting for. The city government and the Steinman newspapers, however, don't even make a pretense of being impartial. They definitely side with Big Business. The newspaper photographers are on the scene every morning. They ignore what the police are doing, but never miss picturing any self-defense on our part as violence.

"However, Local 1241 will win. We are getting the backing of the entire labor movement in Lancaster, and are mobilizing most of the veterans and middle-class on our side."

Wives Join Transport Pickets

When striking workers for the Philadelphia Transportation Company tied up all the city's surface and subway lines, their wives were right out there on the picket line helping to fight for a decent living standard. Members of Local 234 Transport Workers Union of America, CIO, the strikers completely halted the city's transportation on February 11 and 12.

Philadelphia Transit Workers Win Gains In Militant Two Day Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

Returned veterans were conspicuous on the picket lines and made known that their interests were definitely with the union.

The present strike was a far cry from the misguided and company-inspired Jim-Crow walkout in 1944 led by a company union against the up-grading of Negro workers to operating jobs. White and colored workers this time fought side by side on the picket lines as members of the CIO.

News of the pending strike settlement started circulating early Tuesday evening. Union members began converging early on Town Hall, flooding the lobbies, and overflowing to nearby streets. They had to wait nearly an hour but not idly, as hundreds of copies of **The Militant** were distributed and eagerly received.

More than 2,000 strikers were in the Hall to hear the reports of local and international officers on the proposed settlement. Local President Joseph R. Dougherty was the first to speak. "We have forced the company to its knees," he began, and his voice was drowned in cheers.

"We have won our pension demands in full," and there were more cheers. But when he mentioned the 12-cents per hour increase, the cheers were distinctly moderated and mingled with boos as workers attempted to express their indignation at the small wage increase.

EXPOSED PROFITS

Michael Quill, international president of the TWU, stepped to the front of the platform and told the union membership, "You can strike for another day, another week, and we will back you—but I strongly urge you to go back to work." Dougherty then called for the vote, and the assembled strikers accepted the settlement. A few still stuck to their guns and shouted "Noes" were heard.

Displeasure with the 12-cent settlement of the original 25-cent demand is greater than the vote indicated. The union had done a good job exposing the company's war profits and proved that the PTC could afford the wage increase without an increase in fares. Off-the-record reasons given by TWU officials for acceptance of the small raise is that they were placed in a bad spot by the AFL Teamsters local, which before the strike had accepted a 12-cent raise for PTC office workers whom it represents.

Large numbers of PTC workers are not completely satisfied by this explanation. They point out that they had not received any increases during the war, and the present increase does not even begin to compensate for the rising costs of living. Besides, workers in steel, auto, and other CIO unions, are winning much bigger increases and many TWU members feel that they should not have accepted less than the unions in the basic industries.

Today the PTC announced it will seek to obtain a fare increase to compensate the company for even the modest increases granted the transportation workers. Thus, the profits-swollen company is promptly attempting to pass on any wage increase to the millions of street car, bus, and subway-elevated riders, who, of course, are mainly workers.

U.S. Military Police Back British Despots

Under pretext of "protecting themselves," U. S. Military Police have fired tear gas shells into the packed ranks of demonstrators against despotic British rule in India.

Why are GIs forced to police India?

"Three months after V-Day," says an indignant GI letter in the January 22 **Congressional Record**, Wall Street had more that "100,000 troops left in India and Burma."

Are the GIs being held in India because of Wall Street's greedy interest in the "crown jewel" of the British colonial empire? Or have the British imperialists asked their American allies for military assistance because the movement of the Indian people for independence is growing by such leaps and bounds they cannot put it down single-handed?

Columnist Admits Brass Hat Policy Fostered Cruelty

Commenting on the brutal treatment of American soldiers in the U. S. Army reinforcement depot at Lichfield, England, George Fielding Eliot, columnist for the **N. Y. Herald Tribune**, declared, "it is all too clear" that "cruelty was encouraged from above."

"There is strong reason to believe," Eliot stated, "that Lichfield is only one among many. There are too many other reports of similar tenor from other parts of the world where American soldiers have been serving to make it possible to think that the conditions at Lichfield were exceptional.

"Bitter stories," Eliot continues, "come back by various means—stories of the 'Black Hole' of Le Mans, stories of men staked out naked in the African sun at the detention center of Casablanca, stories of men 'on the Tock pile' in the Pacific theater, stories of clubbings, stringing up by the thumbs, of worse — nameless — brutalities practiced . . . on American soldiers."

TIMKEN STRIKERS SOLID AS COMPANY RUSES FAIL

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

CANTON, O., Feb. 8—Despite a ruthless, all-out union-busting campaign by the notorious Timken Roller Bearing Company, the 9,000 members of Golden Lodge No. 1123, CIO United Steelworkers, are maintaining their picket lines with morale at a high level.

These strikers answered company provocations last October by a walkout of 35 days. When Timken not only refused the general wage increase demanded by the steel union nationally but redoubled its anti-union activity, the men and women of Local 1123 shut her down again on January 21, start of the great steel strike.

This was an unpleasant surprise to the Timken bosses because on the eve of the national steel strike they announced that they would continue to operate and even wired a cancellation of contract to Murray the day before the strike deadline.

MEN UNIMPRESSED

Unimpressed by the company's antics, the men established their picket lines on schedule which they have maintained solidly to this day.

Timken never forgets anything and never learns anything. Unable to produce during the strike, they attempted to destroy the morale of the strikers by having foremen sleep inside, issuing statements that the company will never give in, and using high pressure advertising.

Timken has taken over a printing company for the duration of the strike so the workers will have to endure the barrage of company propaganda. Every day a large advertisement appears in the local newspaper, **Canton Repository.** Large mailings of anti-union propaganda have been sent out to each striker.

Although it has met with no success, from the beginning the company has made attempts against the picket lines. It has even tried a crude frameup of pickets.

NO TAKERS

Seven cars filled with company cops and scabs came racing down the road toward the picket line at the Gambranus plant, just outside of Canton. Apparently by prearrangement, their windshields were broken just before they reached the picket line. Not one of the pickets has been accused of hurling the stones. The company tried to buy witnesses by offering $5,000 reward for testimony implicating the union. To date, no one has fallen for the company's juicy offer to frame the union.

The fighting spirit of the strikers is especially high. Snugly set up in their picket shanties, they show complete confidence in their victory. AFL truck drivers refuse to cross the line. No railroad cars have entered the struck plants. Moreover, the townspeople as a whole are behind the workers.

Strictly "Neutral"

When a CIO local charged radio station WGY, in Schenectady, with refusal to sell time to the union to broadcast a statement on the steel strike, a WGY spokesman replied: "We do not feel that time can be given to either labor or management on the subject." WGY is owned by the General Electric Company whose workers have been on strike for several weeks.

CIO Packing Workers Delay Acceptance Of Wage Terms

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

CHICAGO, Feb. 12 — The CIO United Packinghouse Workers decided not to take final action on the 16-cent an hour wage increase recommended by Truman's "fact-finding" board. This was the decison of the union's national wage policy conference yesterday. Their statement declared:

"We await the government's action in putting the increase into the workers pay envelopes throughout the industry at once. While this may be the largest single increase ever granted in the industry, we do not pass at this time as to whether the recommendation does substantial equity."

The union has still technically not called off its strike against the packinghouse industry although the workers returned to work under pressure of the government's strikebreaking plant seizure.

The recommended wage increase will not go into effect until approved by the Wage Stabilization Board which is expected to act this week on the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture that the Board approve the wage boost.

So far the recommended wage increase has not been accepted by the profit-swollen barons of the packing industry. The AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's Union is the only group that has accepted the proposals of the "fact finding" panel.

The CIO workers are understood to be planning to press for further increases and for the elimination of regional and inter-plant differentials that now exist.